CORRESPONDENCE

RELATIVE TO THE

AFFAIRS OF THE LEVANT.

PART III.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament, by Command of Her Majesty,
1841.

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CORRESPONDENCE

RELATIVE TO

THE AFFAIRS OF THE LEVANT.

PART III.

No. 1.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received November* 4.)

(Extract.) *Paris, November* 2, 1840.

BARON NEUMANN has probably put your Lordship in possession of the contents of the despatches which my Austrian Colleague received from Prince Metternich on Friday last, and of which he has been instructed to communicate some parts to the French Government.

Count Appony made this communication to M. Guizot yesterday, who expressed satisfaction with the pacific tenour of the communication, which he considered as implying the hope that France would be party to an arrangement of the Affairs of the East. He, however, regretted to find that there was no specific proposition which would enable the French Government to state to the Chambers that negotiations were on foot between France and the Powers who had signed the Treaty of July.

No. 2.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received November* 7.)

My Lord, *Paris, November* 5, 1840.

I RECEIVED, late last night, by the messenger, your Lordship's despatch of the 2nd instant*, and I this morning, at eight o'clock, transmitted to M. Guizot a copy of it.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 3.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received November* 8.)

My Lord, *Paris, November* 6, 1840.

M. GUIZOT this morning read to me a despatch which he had addressed to Baron Bourqueney on Wednesday last, with the view of opening the way to an understanding between France and the Powers who are parties to the Treaty of July, on the settlement of the Eastern Question.

The French Chargé d'Affaires having received instructions to communicate to you this despatch, it is unnecessary for me to state its contents,

* See Part II., page 338.

but I have to report to your Lordship the substance of a conversation which ensued between the French Minister and me on the same subject.

M. Guizot mentioned to me that the Baron Bulow, since his return to London from Berlin, in talking with M. Bourqueney respecting the expediency of France being party to a pacific arrangement between the Sultan and Mehemet Ali, had suggested that an agreement should be entered into for the suspension of hostilities on a certain day, and that the question whether the Pashalic of Acre be conceded by the Treaty of Peace to the Pasha of Egypt, should depend upon the Fortress of Acre being actually in possession of the Egyptians or of the Turks at the period of the suspension of hostilities. M. Guizot said that the French Government had this objection to Baron Bulow's suggestion, that France by the adoption of it would adhere to an arrangement more disadvantageous to Mehemet Ali than the Treaty of July, inasmuch as by that agreement, the Pasha would be bound to give up, not only all that he was called upon to surrender by that Treaty, but possibly the Pashalic of Acre in addition. The proposition would be fairer, and one to which the French Government might agree, if the basis of the negotiation for peace should be the state of actual possession in the whole of Syria, by the contending parties, on a certain day to be fixed for the suspension of hostilities; that is, if Aleppo and Damascus, and the Oriental part of Syria, were still occupied by the Egyptians, the abandonment of it should be compensated by giving to the Pasha an equivalent elsewhere. I observed to M. Guizot, that the Pasha of Egypt had been forewarned by the Articles of the Treaty itself, of the consequences of his compelling the Sultan and his Allies to have recourse to measures of coercion; and that, after the call that had been made upon the Syrians to throw off the Egyptian yoke, the Sultan was bound in honour to the people who had risen in support of his rights, not to abandon them to the mercy of Mehemet Ali; that if the Pashalic of Acre were restored to its legitimate Sovereign by the efforts of its inhabitants, aided and encouraged by the Turks and their Allies, the Allied Powers could not advise the Sultan to place them again under the Egyptian dominion. M. Guizot admitted that the Sultan might reasonably refuse to abandon the Syrians, who had raised the Turkish standard, and re-established the authority of the Porte, but he suggested that some compensation might be found for Mehemet Ali by leaving Candia under his Government.

Unless some compensation of this sort be made by the Allies, France cannot concur in any pacific arrangement between the Sultan and the Viceroy, or exert her influence to induce the latter to accept the conditions of peace imposed upon him; "and is it worth while," said M. Guizot, "for the sake of excluding the Pasha of Egypt from the Government of Candia during the few years of life that now remain to him, to risk the dangerous consequences that may result to all the world, from France not concurring in the settlement of the peace in the East; for it cannot be doubted, that the want of such concurrence will render precarious such settlement, as well as expose to hazard the peace of the West of Europe."

M. Guizot assured me, that the French Government had no other intelligence respecting the military events in the Levant, than that which had been published in the ministerial journals last night, and copied into all the newspapers of this morning. That this intelligence was most unfavourable to the Pasha could not be denied, but it did not appear to him to be at all conclusive as to Ibrahim Pasha being unable to maintain possession of the plains to the eastward of the mountains, or as to his being under the necessity of evacuating the towns of Aleppo and Damascus, or the passes of the Taurus.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 4.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received November* 11.)

(Extract.) *Paris, November* 9, 1840.

THE proposition made by M. Guizot, in his despatch to the Baron de Bourqueney of Wednesday last, was not one to which the French Government, I believe, had the hope of obtaining the assent of your Lordship, or of the Representatives of the other Powers. They could not expect, that after the success which has attended the operations of the Turks and their Allies on the coast of Syria, and at a moment when intelligence is daily expected of the fall of St. Jean d'Acre, the Allies could advise the Sultan to accord to Mehemet Ali more favourable conditions of peace than those offered to him by the Treaty of July, and before the inability of the Egyptian Army to maintain possession of the most important points in Syria had been so clearly manifested; but the proposition which was made by M. Guizot in conversation with me on Friday, and respecting which he told me yesterday he had since written to the Baron Bourqueney, they flatter themselves may be more favourably listened to. Many Deputies, the friends of peace and good order, to whom it is indifferent whether St. Jean d'Acre be in the hands of the Sultan or of the Pasha of Egypt, have a feeling that the dignity and honour of France will suffer, if the Allies reject the overtures of the French Government to come to an understanding with the Allies as to the future existence of Mehemet Ali, and will be satisfied if the Ministers shall be able to show by the subsequent conduct of the Allies, that the regret which they have all expressed that France was not a party to the Alliance, was perfectly sincere.

No. 5.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, November* 12, 1840.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 6th instant, I have to state to your Excellency, that M. de Bourqueney, to whom I showed that despatch, assures me that M. Guizot did not address to him any despatch on Wednesday, the 4th instant, but only wrote to him on that day a private letter, a part of which M. de Bourqueney read me last Saturday morning. I said to M. de Bourqueney, that Her Majesty's Government is most desirous that France should join the Quintuple Alliance, but that I should only be deceiving M. Guizot, if I were to lead him to suppose that Her Majesty's Government could agree to anything beyond the Treaty; that the Treaty, having been concluded, must be executed; and I reminded him, that by the Treaty Mehemet Ali has lost all right to any part of Syria, and even to Egypt itself; though, with respect to the latter province, it is the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, that the Sultan would do well to reinstate him, if he should submit completely, and at an early moment. I said, moreover, that our successes in Syria have been so rapid and signal that we may assume, that the Sultan's authority is virtually re-established over the whole of that province; and that the discontent of the Egyptians is represented as being so great, that it is by no means impossible that the authority of Mehemet Ali in Egypt may be overthrown by the people themselves.

As it does not appear, from your Excellency's report of your conversation with M. Guizot on the 6th instant, that M. Guizot requested you to make any proposition to Her Majesty's Government, it is not necessary for me to give your Excellency any instructions to make to M. Guizot any other reply than that which you made at the time, to what fell from him. But as to the notion that Her Majesty's Government could, out of deference to the wishes of France, suspend operations which

Great Britain is carrying on upon the coast of Syria in fulfilment of the engagements of a Treaty concluded with Four other Powers, you acted very properly in giving no encouragement whatever to such a suggestion.

M. Guizot seems, indeed, in the whole of the conversation to have gone upon the assumption, that the Treaty of July last is not to be executed, and that the only thing to be considered is, what mode of breaking that Treaty would be the least disagreeable to the Contracting Parties. But the Allies intend that the Treaty shall be carried into execution; and, therefore, it seems useless to discuss the relative merits of the various ways of setting it aside.

No doubt the Five Powers who are parties to the Treaty of July, would gladly have the accession of France to that Treaty; and Her Majesty's Government are persuaded, that if France were willing to accede to it, and thus to become a party to the settlement of the peace in the Levant, all the Contracting Parties would joyfully accept her accession. But it is not at first sight evident what the dangerous consequences are, which, M. Guizot says, may result to the world, from France not concurring in, that is to say, not being a co-operating party to, this settlement; nor is it manifest in what way the want of the concurrence of France will render the settlement precarious, and expose to hazard the peace of the West of Europe. France might indeed be tempted, though it is scarcely supposable she should be so, to interpose, while affairs are still pending; and to endeavour, by force of arms, to prevent a settlement distasteful to her, and calculated to defeat her unavowed designs; but, when once that settlement has been effected, and the authority of the Sultan has been re-established in his own dominions, France cannot hope to reverse such an arrangement, even if she were to take up arms to endeavour to do so, which it is quite impossible to suppose she would. For, even if she had strength sufficient to make the attempt, her recorded pledges to the Sultan must prevent her from doing so, as long as her Government continues to attach any value to a character for good faith.

The anxiety of Her Majesty's Government to obtain the co-operation of France arose not from any feeling that such co-operation was indispensably necessary to give permanent stability to the arrangement when effected, but chiefly because such co-operation would have ensured the prompt submission of Mehemet Ali, and would therefore have led to a more easy and speedy accomplishment of the object in view.

No. 6.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, November* 13, 1840.

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 9th instant, I have to state to your Excellency, that, as I have already informed you by my despatch of yesterday, M. de Bourqueney denies having received any despatch from M. Guizot, such as your Excellency states M. Guizot to have read to you on the 6th instant; and I have not as yet received any official proposition or communication from M. Guizot through M. de Bourqueney.

With respect to the feelings which your Excellency states to be entertained by some of the Deputies, that the Four Powers, in order to prove the sincerity of their regret that France is not a party to the Alliance, ought to consent to abstain from carrying the Treaty into execution, I have to observe, that such reasoning is unsound, and rests upon an erroneous foundation. The Four Powers have invariably, and with the utmost sincerity, expressed their regret that France is not a party to the Treaty which they have concluded with the Porte; but they have never expressed regret at having concluded that Treaty; nor have they ever stated, that, because France did not choose to be a party to the arrangement which that Treaty is to effect, they would on that account abstain

from effecting that arrangement. If such had been the feeling of the Four Powers, and if they had been of opinion, that no arrangement of the Turkish Question could be carried into effect, but such an one as France would be a party to, they ought not to have concluded the Treaty of July, nor to have taken towards each other, and towards the Sultan, the engagements which that Treaty contains.

The Four Powers have, from the beginning, felt great regret that the determination of France not to join in any coercive measures against Mehemet Ali, rendered it impossible for France to be a party to the Treaty; but it would be very much to mistake the nature of their regret, to suppose that it implies a willingness to allow France to have a voice whether a Treaty, to which she is not a party, shall be executed or not. I apprehend that nothing but the overwhelming force of any Power could entitle it to prescribe to other Powers to refrain from executing the engagements of a Treaty; and there is no Power now existing in Europe strong enough to impose its own will in such a manner upon other States.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 7.

Lord William Russell to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received October* 30.)

My Lord, *Berlin, October* 26, 1840.

I COMMUNICATED to Baron Werther the despatch* of the 15th instant, addressed by your Lordship to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, and his Excellency desired me to say that the instructions contained therein had his entire approbation.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) WILLIAM RUSSELL.

No. 8.

Mr. Consul Larking to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received November* 2.)

My Lord, *Alexandria, October* 6, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that on the 26th ultimo, Colonel Galisse, a French officer of Engineers, arrived here by a Government steamer from Toulon; he immediately inspected all the fortifications in the city and along the coast, and is now preparing plans for a comprehensive scheme of defence, including the erection of batteries at Aboukir, and at the new or eastern harbour, as well as the refortification of the heights which formed the French lines during the invasion of 1801.

Great discontent prevails amongst the Turks on board the fleet, in consequence of the substitution of Arab for Turkish officers; this dissatisfaction often borders on mutiny, and a report is current that it is in agitation to send them to garrison the city of Cairo.

M. de Weimar, said to be the newly-appointed French Consul-General for Bagdad, has arrived here on his way to that city, and has had repeated conferences with Mehemet Ali.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN W. LARKING

See Part II., page 311.

No. 9.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 7.)

My Lord, *Therapia, October* 19, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to inclose despatches I received yesterday from Syria, brought by Colonel Hodges.

I beg to call your attention to Mr. Wood's despatches. In the despatch from General Jochmus will be found most satisfactory proof of the sagacity with which Commodore Napier adapts his measures to the circumstances under which he acts, and the felicitous audacity with which he carries them into execution.

What has been done in Syria by Commodore Napier, by General Jochmus, and by Captain Walker, and the brave men under their command, has destroyed the spell of Mehemet Ali's fortune, and shows that Ibrahim's boasted skill and valour are nothing when met by such men as those above named. The Turkish soldiers, heretofore cowed by defeats, due to the ignorance of their Generals, are now said to be elated with a just confidence in themselves under able commanders, and have shown that valour for which their nation has been formerly so highly celebrated.

It will not be the fault of the soldiers hereafter, if Syria and Egypt be not restored to the possession of their legitimate Sovereign.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 9.

Mr. Wood to Viscount Ponsonby.

Ottoman flag-ship, off Djounie,
(Extract.) *October* 8, 1840.

I HAVE distinctly stated to Izzet Pasha that, previous to his arrival, I had declared to the Syrians, by your Lordship's authority, that the Porte would grant them their ancient rights and privileges if they returned to their allegiance to the Sultan; and as I knew it was in consequence of such promises they were encouraged to the degree of again revolting against the Egyptian Authorities only a few weeks after they had laid down their arms, I sincerely trusted and fully expected his Excellency would now, by virtue of his authority in Syria, execute all I had promised in the name of your Excellency.

Izzet Pasha answered that he would, but in a tone that did not satisfy me that he would. Since then I have spoken to him again on the subject, and argued with him on the prudence of abolishing a number of taxes which are altogether illegal, and are even unknown in other parts of the Turkish Empire. These taxes and imposts will have to be abolished so soon as the Sultan's authority is established throughout the country, being contrary to the Hatti Sheriff; and were they to be abolished at once it would create a most favourable moral effect in the country, and would undoubtedly encourage the nation to redouble their exertions in support of their Sovereign. Besides which, Ibrahim Pasha is making similar concessions to the Syrians, and it becomes therefore doubly incumbent on the Porte not to delay the execution of a measure that promises so much present good.

I have alluded to the same subject in my letter of the 3rd instant to Izzet Pasha; but he replied to me verbally that he preferred waiting for instructions from the Porte relative to the principles on which he was to govern Syria, before he took any responsibility upon himself. Nevertheless, I cannot help thinking that we are giving Ibrahim Pasha an advantage over us by his hesitation in a matter that requires none.

I have also suggested to his Excellency that the discharge of the Syrian conscripts who are our prisoners would greatly promote the cause of the Sultan. There are no less than 16,000 of them in the Egyptian

Army, who, when liberated, would fight for him so long as their future liberty depended on the success of his arms.

I have reason to believe that though in many instances his Excellency pretends to concur with me in opinion on these subjects, yet he takes no trouble to follow out my suggestions the moment I leave him. I have been also endeavouring to persuade him to use the greatest courtesy towards the Princes and the Sheiks in his camp, without exception, and not to make any distinctions, by which he will lay the seeds of jealousy amongst them, and will make them attend more to their private feuds than to the public service.

In order that my representations may have some weight with him, I have given him explicitly to understand that I was sent here by your Lordship, that I was authorised to make a number of promises to the Syrians, (the nature of which I specified,) and that I was in a manner pledged to see them executed by the Sultan's officers.

I trust your Lordship will not be led to infer from the foregoing that any difference exists between us; on the contrary, we are on the most cordial terms together, and in many instances he is pleased to consult me and abide by my advice; but as the executive rests with him, it does not always depend upon me to make him follow up his good intentions. He is, however, full of energy and zeal; though I may be permitted to say, that I do not consider him the fittest person to govern these countries after the termination of the war.

Since writing the above, I have received the Grand Vizier's very handsome letter conveying the Porte's authority for me to act in Syria. I feel confident that so soon as the Pasha sees it, he will pay more attention to my suggestions.

Inclosure 2 in No. 9.

Mr. Wood to Viscount Ponsonby.

Ottoman flag-ship, off Djounie, October 10, 1840.

(Extract.)

ON the 20th of September I embarked on board the steamer "Cyclops," to reconnoitre the coast from Beyrout to Sidon, and to communicate with the inhabitants of that part of Mount Lebanon which descends to the sea, to agree on the manner of arming them. At Sidon I found the Egyptians busy in fortifying and barricading the town and streets. The result of my observations I have communicated to the Admiral, and his Excellency having decided upon an attack on Sidon, I was received on board Her Majesty's ship "Thunderer," on the 24th, and proceeded off Sidon, taking up our position close to the castle and town. On the 26th, Commodore Napier joined us with a few Turkish troops and marines, in all not exceeding 1,400. The town was then duly summoned; and on the refusal of the Authorities to give it up, it was bombarded, and a landing was effected. In four hours and a half it was taken by assault, and the whole garrison, composed of nearly 3,000 Egyptians, including the officers, were taken prisoners. We did not lose altogether more than five men, and had only thirty-two wounded. The whole action was a most gallant one, and not sufficient praise can be bestowed on the officers who conducted the assault, particularly on Admiral Walker, who headed the Turkish troops, and who, after taking possession of the castle, was the first to rush into the town, with a handful of Turks, and drive back the enemy from their barricades.

While I congratulate your Lordship on the success of the Turkish arms, as the chief promoter and supporter of the Expedition, I may be allowed to pay a passing tribute to the justness of the opinion your Lordship formed of the worthlessness of the Egyptian troops and of the power of Mehemet Ali, which is at best but little more than nominal in Syria.

The capture of Sidon has produced a great sensation in the country; it has considerably lowered the Egyptians in the estimation of the natives; and has shown that they are inferior to the troops brought against them.

On the following day, I had the Divan of Sidon, composed of natives, assembled, and read to them a copy of the firman bearing Izzet Pasha's nomination, with which he had furnished me, his own Boyourouldi, and an Arabic version of the Convention; after which I proceeded to the nomination of a Governor, in the name of his Excellency. All the other public officers were confirmed in their places, and were charged to send in returns of all the public stores of every nature, particularly in arms and ammunition. Every thing was done in the name of the Sultan. Public prayers were offered by the Mufti for the success of his arms; and the greatest enthusiasm was displayed by all classes of His Highness's subjects, to whom I distinctly stated that henceforth they should be governed according to the Hatti Sheriff, and all illegal taxes and imposts should be abolished.

I beg to inclose a copy of the letter the Divan addressed to Izzet Pasha, and a copy of the one I wrote to his Excellency. I am glad in being able to state that his Excellency has confirmed the Governor, at Captain Berkeley's and my request; and I sincerely trust he will also take my suggestions into consideration.

My proposal to the Admiral to arm the inhabitants of Damour, (a district nine miles to the north of Sidon, and within four hours' march of Deir-el-Kammar, the capital of the mountains, and of the residence of the Emir Bechir,) had for object, first, the harassing of Solyman Pasha's left flank; secondly, the cutting off of his retreat on his rear, over the mountains,—Djounie and Sidon being in our possession; and, thirdly, the offering of facilities to the great Prince to come to us, or of forcing him into submission. In consequence, on the 29th, Captain Berkeley and myself, with about a hundred marines, proceeded on board the steamer "Stromboli," and disembarked at the River Damour, from whence I addressed immediately a circular letter to the Princes and Sheiks, as noted per margin*, of the surrounding villages, who came down and were armed accordingly. The four Princes accompanied me to Djounie to pay personally their respects to the Pasha, who presented each with a sword, and gave them their Boyourouldis as sub-governors of their several districts. The Princes, who are related to the great Prince, were highly gratified, and have been sent back with an order to receive 1,000 muskets more to guard the passage to Deir-el-Kammar, and prevent all communication between Ibrahim Pasha, who is actually at the latter place, and Solyman Pasha, encamped with a very few troops and sixteen field-pieces at a place called Merge, a league beyond Beyrout.

I addressed a letter also from thence to the Sheik of Deir-el-Kammar, Yautish-el-Hadid. The Sheik came personally to Sidon to offer his and his people's submission; but stated that, as Ibrahim Pasha was there with about 4,000 men, it was impossible for the inhabitants to leave their families and come for arms, as the moment it became known to him, he would revenge himself on their families, and burn their homes in their absence. He proposed, however, that the armed mountaineers in the neighbourhood should march in a body to Deir-el-Kammar, supported by a body of our troops, having arms for distribution, when the inhabitants would meet and assist us in driving the Egyptians out of it. The Honourable Captain Berkeley and myself were contemplating such an expedition, when intelligence that Ibrahim Pasha had brought together 4,000 troops, made us relinquish our intention for the moment, being too weak to attempt it alone.

Once Deir-el-Kammar taken, the whole of the mountains of Lebanon are ours, and Ibrahim Pasha must either shut himself up in Acre or must retreat beyond them; leaving to our undisputed possession both the mountains and the sea-coast; for the nature of the country is such, that it would be impossible for him to remain near the coast, if we are in possession of the whole range of Mount Lebanon. The mountains descend nearly to the sea, which would place his army, on many points, within range of the guns of our ships, and in all others, between us and the armed peasantry.

* Emir Jousuf, Emir Melham, Emir Abdallah, Emir Ismaël; Sheiks,—Janus Murad, Lahoud Asaf, Auton Hauna, Abou Mansour, Nadir, Laloum, Laloum Nadir.

Your Lordship will excuse the mention of the above details, which I only give with the view to show how limited is now the country left for Ibrahim Pasha to act in. He is surrounded with difficulties; there is no option left him, and he must either shut himself up in Acre, leaving Syria to us, or he must retreat beyond Lebanon, which I think he will do in preference to the former alternative.

The country to the south of Sidon, as far as Acre, is inhabited by Mutualis, who are in favour of the Sultan. While at Sidon, I sent them a letter, calling upon them to take arms in defence of their disregarded rights and privileges. In their answer, they express their entire devotedness to the Porte, and their willingness to tender personally their submission. They, moreover, sent a confidential agent to inform me that Ibrahim Pasha had demanded 2,000 of their clients to co-operate with his army against us, but that they had refused to comply with his demand and begged to be furnished forthwith with 3,000 stand of arms, both to defend themselves, and to take possession of the Pass of Ras Nakhora, and the country beyond it. This pass secured, all communication between Acre and Ibrahim Pasha will be cut off. Besides which, no troops can be brought from the latter place, either to Tsour or Sidon, to attack us. Notwithstanding I was called away from Sidon the day three of the Sheiks came to take away the arms, Captain Berkeley undertook to give them, with the necessary quantity of ammunition, assisted by the British Agent there. On my part, I have asked and have obtained from the Pasha a Boyourouldi for each Sheik, confirming them in their several posts, with the condition that they use all their efforts in the support of their legitimate Sovereign against Mehemet Ali.

On the 20th instant Kaiffa was taken by a squadron of one Turkish and two English frigates. They took off two mortars, four field-pieces, a quantity of arms and ammunition, and destroyed the rest before they abandoned the town.

The same squadron captured Tsour on the 24th, where a great quantity of grain and public stores were found. The garrison, about 1,200 men, retreated at night a league inland, where they continue to remain encamped.

On the 29th, Selim Pasha and a body of marines marched against the enemy's outposts on the heights of the Dog River (Nahr el Kelb) and drove them back; and on the 4th instant the Emir Bechir (El-Kasim) our friend, who joined us on the 30th, attacked, with about 1,000 mountaineers, Osman Pasha's division of the army, (amounting, as the Emir told me, to 5,000 men,) over which he obtained a signal victory, after a combat of six hours, killing and wounding above 300 of the enemy, and taking 600 prisoners and deserters. Osman Pasha estimates his total loss at 2,000 men, from which it would appear that many of his troops dispersed. He was himself wounded by a musket-shot, and has fled to Zahlé, a large Maronite village on the other side of Lebanon, bordering on the plains of the Bakaa.

The inhabitants of Tripoli, with the mountaineers of Beshiary and Emir Hangiar of Balbec, have themselves proposed to drive the garrison out of the town of Tripoli, if the Pasha gave them arms, to which his Excellency has acceded. A British squadron will co-operate with them. The Expedition is well combined, and leaves little doubt of its success. The people of Tripoli have too many wrongs to redress to remain quiet spectators of what is going forward in Syria, without making an effort to free themselves from the yoke of the Egyptians.

Similar measures are in operation in regard to Lattachia. Natives have been appointed to both places as governors. There are great quantities of public stores, arms, and ammunition in these two towns, and their capture will greatly distress the Egyptian army at Marash and Aleppo.

Ibrahim Pasha is actually at Ibteddein, or Deir-el-Kammar, with about 1,500 men, undecided how to act. At one moment he proposes encamping near Sidon, and hazarding an attempt at retaking it; at another, of collecting together all his forces, and attacking us. He

entertains, also, an idea of throwing himself into Acre, or of retreating to the Valley of the Orontes. In fact, my Lord, he is quite perplexed how to act; he is now convinced the whole country is decidedly opposed to him, and he is aware that were he to throw himself into Acre, Syria is lost to him, and were he to retire into the interior, he must leave us in possession of the whole coast and of the mountains.

The natives tell me positively that the feeling is such at Acre, that it would surrender to any squadron that bombarded it for half an hour. The troops composing the garrison are, for the most part, disaffected; and I am even assured that, not long since, the Governor was obliged to take the arms out of the hands of the artillery to prevent mischief. The men in the gallies are waiting with anxiety for the moment to fall on their jailors to obtain their liberation.

The number of prisoners taken since the 10th of September amounts to - - - - - -	2,924
Deserters - - - - - -	1,927
Total - -	4,851

900 of whom are in the pay, and serving under the standard, of the Sultan. The Syrians continue to manifest the most enthusiastic feeling in favour of the Sultan. Already 20,000 stand of arms have been distributed, and still thousands come daily to ask for more, which we cannot give them until the arrival of the "Cambridge." In conclusion, I have the satisfaction of assuring your Lordship that the cause of the Sultan is progressing beyond our most sanguine expectations. His Highness' arms have been successful everywhere, supported throughout by the natives, who repair with confidence to his standard, as their only safeguard against misrule and oppression.

Inclosure 3 in No. 9.

Mr. Wood to Viscount Ponsonby.

Ottoman flag-ship, off Djounie,
(Extract.) *October* 12, 1840.

THE disinclination of the Emir Bechir to join the Sultan's standard obliged me to grant him a term, not to injure further the interests of the Sultan in Syria, by permitting him to use his authority to our prejudice. On its expiration, I delivered on the 8th instant the firman superseding him, to Emir Bechir-el-Kasim, who has evinced, in many instances, his attachment and loyalty to the Sultan, and who has rendered himself worthy of his appointment by his two successive defeats of the enemy.

The Ex-Emir has since put himself in communication with me, and has made known his intention of throwing himself on the clemency of his Imperial Master the Sultan. He is coming to the river Damour to-day, with his family, where I shall repair immediately on board a steamer to receive him.

By the very next opportunity, I shall do myself the honour of transmitting to your Lordship my correspondence with him, with a statement of the whole transaction.

Early on the morning of the 10th instant, Beyrout was evacuated by the Egyptians, the Imperial standard was hoisted, and the town garrisoned by the Sultan's troops, who are occupied in throwing up works to repel any future attack.

That nothing may be wanting to crown our undertakings with success, a general action was also fought yesterday (10th instant), between the Sultan's troops and the Egyptians on the heights, about four hours from our positions. The former were commanded by Commodore Napier and Selim Pasha, the latter by Ibrahim Pasha and Hassan Pasha (Bey). The Egyptians were totally defeated, and Ibrahim Pasha only escaped with seven men; the rest were dispersed, and 700 of them became our prisoners.

Mehemet Ali's power in this part of Syria is overthrown, and I conceive it to be impossible for him ever to regain his ground here, now that the mountains are ours and Emir Bechir is secured.

Solyman Pasha, who was encamped near Beyrout, was obliged to abandon his position, leaving behind him nineteen pieces of ordnance, ammunition, and stores. He fled with only 500 men; the rest, amounting to 2,000, made their submission yesterday before the town of Beyrout. It is reported that 900 men are coming to follow their example. The number of deserters and prisoners amount, therefore, to 8,000 and upwards, which exceed our own numbers.

Beyrout, Sidon, and Tsour, are garrisoned by the Sultan's troops; Djebail and Batroun by natives.

Inclosure 4 in No. 9.

General Jochmus to Viscount Ponsonby.

(Extract.) *Camp of Djounie, October* 7, 1840.

HIS Highness Izzet Pasha communicated to me an official letter which he received from Constantinople, announcing to him that the Sublime Porte had appointed me a General of Division.

I hope in the course of this war to prove that this appointment has not been entirely useless; it will be the best mode of expressing my sincere thanks.

Selim Pasha, also a Ferik, or General of Division, will now command all the troops here, Izzet Pasha having declared that he will only occupy himself with his affairs of Governor-General. Our difficulties are diminishing, and if Commodore Napier is allowed to go on as he began, you may expect good news from this quarter, the more so, as by the arrival of Captain Ford we received a new reinforcement of a battalion, and the news of another brigade coming immediately, and more troops later.

We can expect thus to see here soon from 15,000 to 18,000 men, and with that force, if they are tolerable troops, we may hope to do something decisive.

There are no Turkish nor English arms left for distribution; 20,000 have been given out.

If you send us down 10,000 stand more, they will immediately be disposed of.

Inclosure 5 in No. 9.

General Jochmus to Viscount Ponsonby.

Head Quarters, Beyrout,
My Lord, *October* 12, 1840, 6 A.M.

I HAD the honour to inform your Lordship of the causes and the event of the dispersion of Osman Pasha's corps.

Ibrahim Pasha having continued since, and notwithstanding the reverse, his system of dividing his forces, in order to cover more ground against the projected armaments of the mountaineers, we have persisted, on our side, to take advantage of his mistakes.

On the 8th of October, in the afternoon, I occupied the heights of Ardali (where the action of the 24th of September had been fought), and the village of Ornachajuen, without opposition, with a force of four battalions.

During the following night, about 300 armed peasants joined, and I made early on the 9th a reconnaissance on my left, to ascertain the nature of the ground. A skirmish ensued, and the enemy showed about 1,500 men, under Hassan Bey and Emir Massoud, on the opposite heights of Calat Meidan.

Commodore Napier and Selim Pasha coming to the heights of Ardali

on the 9th, resolved to drive the enemy from his position, in order to facilitate the operations of Emir Bechir Kasim, who, having been proclaimed governing Prince in lieu of the old Emir Bechir, had been directed to cross the Kelb Sou, and to enter the provinces above Beyrout, for which purpose he had collected a force of mountaineers, and had been provided with 1,100 muskets for distribution, the last remaining.

The ultimate object of the operation was eventually the taking of Beyrout, whither Admiral Stopford had gone with part of the squadron.

The position of the enemy at Calat Meidan, however, was of prodigious natural strength, being covered by a deep ravine, and presenting three successive lines of entrenchments, the elevation of the position, from the depth of the ravine to the highest redoubt, being perhaps 1,000 yards, and in many parts the rocks were nearly perpendicular.

Commodore Napier, with the double view of saving a great loss of life on our part, and of obtaining a greater result in victory, directed me to order Omer Bey, who with five battalions had been left in our position above Djounie, to march with two of them to Ageltun, there to cross the Kelb Sou, and to fall on the enemy in his flank and rear. The Emir Bechir received similar orders.

Shortly afterwards, and during the evening of the 9th, we ascertained that Ibrahim Pasha in person had arrived at Calat Meidan, with 2,000 of his best troops, namely, 1,200 Albanian body-guards, and 800 of what is called his regular guard.

Perceiving finally his fault, this General had ordered four battalions of Solyman Pasha to join him also, and 2,000 more men were approaching from Zachlé, in order to be concentrated in our front.

Not a moment was to be lost.

The Commodore ordered up to the heights of Ardali the three remaining battalions from Djounie, and two Turkish field-pieces.

At two o'clock, on the 10th of October, we had seven battalions at Ardali, when the fire of Omer Bey approaching by the road of Beckfuga, was distinctly heard in the enemy's rear.

The following dispositions were then taken for an immediate attack.

One battalion and the mountaineers were directed to cross the ravine, which separated us from the enemy, and to arrive on his line of retreat by the road to Brumana.

Four battalions stormed the heights of Calat Meidan, two *en tirailleurs*, supported by two others, in closer order, moving by the road.

Two battalions, reserves on the heights of Ardali.

After two hours' fighting and the display of the most daring gallantry on the part of the Turks, for the *élite* troops of the hitherto unvanquished Ibrahim Pasha also stood manfully to their posts strongly fortified and facing both attacks, we joined Omer Bey on the heights of Calat Meidan.

The enemy's three lines of retreat being occupied by our respective corps, namely, the road to Brumana by our column, and the roads to Beckfuga and Corneil by Omer Bey, Ibrahim's forces were thrown into the gorge, not twenty-five men of any of his corps remaining together at sunset, and he himself escaping with difficulty, accompanied by a few horsemen.

Eight hundred prisoners, all his stores and ammunition, &c. &c. fell into our hands ; a great many more troops will disperse to their houses, or be pursued by the Emir Bechir Kasim, who arrived at sunset within three hours' distance from the field of battle, and communicated to the Commodore, that he was then observing the 2,000 men approaching to Ibrahim Pasha's support from Zachlé.

In consequence of having been weakened by Ibrahim Pasha's order, by four battalions, Solyman Pasha withdrew altogether from Beyrout in the night of the 9th October, and concentrated in a camp one hour and a half east from the town, having the river between himself and the place. The town was, consequently, occupied by the English and a battalion of Turks on the 10th of October; but the news of the entire defeat of Ibrahim Pasha having reached Solyman Pasha's camp, his forces were seized by a panic. He himself, abandoned by his troops, fled in the

direction of Damascus, with a few squadrons of horse; many of his soldiers dispersed, a regiment of 2,000 men laid down their arms early on the 11th of October at Beyrout, and gave up his entrenched camp with nineteen pieces of artillery, ammunition, stores, &c. &c.

Our success has been complete. The Turkish troops fought as they did in the times of Solyman the Great.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) A. JOCHMUS,
Lieut.-Gen.

No. 10.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received November 7.*)

My Lord, *Therapia, October 20*, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship copy of a despatch which I have received from Admiral Sir Robert Stopford.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure in No. 10.

Admiral Stopford to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, "*Princess Charlotte*," *Djounie Bay, October 7*, 1840.

I MAY congratulate your Lordship on the continuing success of the Sultan's cause: Sidon and Tsour are still in our hands; the former already put in a formidable state of defence; and with the recent and expected reinforcements to the Turkish troops, I have little doubt of our continuing to hold it: but the small number of our disposable force prevents us doing more, on many other points, than opening a temporary means of arming the country people, who are kept off by the Egyptian forces, with the aid of cavalry in any open part of the country, from a free communication with the sea-shore, notwithstanding which they contrive at great risk to present themselves; and I am happy to find that, on many occasions, they have made a brave and good use of them. A body of about 2,000, under Abdul Emir-el-Kasim, attacked a corps of 4,000 regular troops under Osman Pasha two days ago, and totally dispersed them, taking between 300 and 400 prisoners; besides which a Colonel and fifty-eight deserters left them and joined our camp.

A slight check was suffered at Tortosa, from a party of the enemy having been thrown in before daybreak on the morning of the attack, and some obstructions which were not foreseen.

At Beyrout, in consequence of information that a powder magazine was mined, the "Edinburgh" and "Hastings" sent their boats under Commander Worth, with the men who had laid the train and given the information; the train was cut off at the moment it was set fire to, and thirty-one barrels of powder taken off. One fine young officer was killed and two seamen wounded in this gallant enterprise.

There is no longer any apprehension of an attack upon our position, the enemy disappearing, except at Beyrout and the neighbourhood, where Solyman Pasha remains with about 4,000 men; but our accounts are always exceedingly vague, and we know their marches and evolutions are made expressly to deceive us.

October 12. I had the honour to receive your Lordship's letters of the 21st September and 3rd instant, by the "Phœnix," on the 9th, since which very great successes have attended the Sultan's cause. Before the arrival of Sir Charles Smith a plan was concerted for a combined attack upon the camp of Solyman Pasha and the town of Beyrout; the shipping

moved into position, while a portion of the Turkish troops marched by the mountains. This led to the evacuation of the town the same night, which was taken possession of by us in the morning; while Commodore Napier, who led on the Turkish forces under Selim Pasha, of whom he speaks highly, found himself in presence of about 3,000 Egyptian troops in a strong position, under Ibrahim Pasha himself; gallantly attacked them, with the Turks and mountaineers alone; drove them from post to post; and at last put them to flight, taking about 800 prisoners, and leaving Selim Pasha in chase of the remainder, who has since returned from the pursuit. Meantime the 2,000 Egyptian troops, who had previously occupied the town, made their escape from Solyman's camp, and returned as deserters to the Sultan's flag; and very soon after, the camp itself was deserted, the guns spiked, and Solyman fled; it is supposed to join Ibrahim on the road towards Balbec or Damascus.

I may well congratulate His Highness the Sultan on this most important success; great in itself as affording, with Tyre and Sidon, a strong hold in the country, and shelter for the troops, who have now left the rock on which they landed, and great in its effects of inspiring confidence among the inhabitants of the country, for whom it opens a free communication with the forces sent to their assistance.

The prisoners and deserters in all may be estimated at 10,000 and 20,000 mountaineers well armed; but a further supply of muskets is much wanted.

Sir Charles is now in the town making the necessary arrangements, and will soon proceed to Sidon and Tsour.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) ROBERT STOPFORD,
Admiral.

P.S.—Events crowd upon one another in such rapid succession, that I am obliged to acquaint your Lordship by a postscript, the Emir Bechir of the mountains is now, I am informed, in Sidon; and I have ordered a steamer to bring him and his family to Beyrout. Colonel Hodges, who takes this despatch, who was with Commodore Napier in the last gallant affair, when Ibrahim was nearly taken prisoner, will give you a full detail of the present state of affairs here. I have likewise intrusted the Colonel with the Egyptian standard which last waved at Beyrout, for presentation to His Highness the Sultan.

No. 11.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received November* 9.)

Extract.) *Vienna, October* 28, 1840.

PRINCE METTERNICH was on the point of sending orders to the Internuncio, to concur with Lord Ponsonby in the course directed by your Lordship's despatch* to that Ambassador of October 15, but the arrival this morning of the Smyrna Journals, containing accounts of the advantages recently obtained in Syria, has determined the Prince to delay sending the instruction in question for the present. This does not indicate on his part the least repugnance to seeing Mehemet Ali reinstated in the Government of Egypt; but considering the rapid progress of events in Syria, and the possibility that even Acre may fall, he sees no advantage in the Sultan presenting an offer to Mehemet Ali at the very moment when that Pasha may possibly be on the point of arriving with a request. He wishes to preserve to the Sultan the full advantage of his position, and he thinks this the more advisable, as, in case of a refusal on the part of Mehemet Ali, the Powers would be embarrassed, while the final result of the contest in Syria is still undecided, to know what resolution to take with regard to that Pasha, though an offer on their part, followed by a refusal on his, would be generally felt to require one. The Prince, therefore,

* See Part II., page 311.

takes upon himself to delay the step, directing the Internuncio to give no other reason for the delay than the absence of instructions. Prince Metternich undertakes to explain this delay at Paris, and will represent that his object has been to give the French Government time to exert its influence upon Mehemet Ali, and thereby to save the Pasha from further endangering his position by a refusal which, under the circumstances now taking place in Syria, he might hereafter regret; thus offering to France the part of deciding the conduct of the Pasha, and thereby concluding the affair.

No. 12.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 9.)

My Lord, *Vienna, October 28, 1840.*

PRINCE METTERNICH informs me that the succours destined for Syria will consist of twenty-five scientific officers of different arms, of all the English muskets in depôt at Carlstadt, and between 300 and 400 marines. I learn, from another source, that there are 5,000 English muskets at Trieste which have been ordered to be embarked. I have represented the necessity of sending ammunition with them, and have been assured it will be done. As soon as I can learn the exact number of muskets sent, I will acquaint your Lordship with it.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) BEAUVALE.

No. 13.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 9.)

My Lord, *Vienna, October 28, 1840.*

PRINCE ESTERHAZY will set off immediately for London. The main point of his instructions is that Austria will act fully up to the Convention of the 15th of July; but that if the case, which by the Convention is set aside for the consideration of the Cabinets, should arise, viz., that of depriving Mehemet Ali of the Government of Egypt, Austria reserves to herself the faculty of entering upon the consideration of it in common with the Three Powers her Allies.

By this your Lordship will understand that she is willing to contribute her efforts to procure the evacuation of Syria by the Egyptians, looking always in practice to the expediency of keeping the Turks in the first line, although aiding them, at the same time, by every species of succour which may be needed to make their operations effective. When the evacuation of Syria shall be complete, and the question of the conduct to be observed towards Mehemet Ali in Egypt shall arise, Austria will be guided by the circumstances that shall then exist, not pronouncing herself more favourable in the meantime to one solution of the question than to another.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) BEAUVALE.

No. 14.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 7.)

My Lord, *Vienna, November 1, 1840.*

I HAVE communicated to Prince Metternich, the substance of Mr. Wood's Report to Lord Ponsonby of October 8, which indicates a reluctance on the part of Izzet Pasha to confirm the promises made by Mr. Wood

in the name of the Porte, or to give them effect. Prince Metternich is strongly impressed with the necessity of setting this right, and will immediately instruct the Internuncio to co-operate with Lord Ponsonby for that purpose.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) BEAUVALE.

No. 15.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Beauvale.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, November* 14, 1840.

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 28th ultimo, reporting the reasons which have induced Prince Metternich to delay sending to the Internuncio instructions similar to those contained in my despatch* of October 15, to Lord Ponsonby, I have to state to your Excellency that the distinction drawn by Prince Metternich between a renewed offer to be made by the Sultan to Mehemet Ali, and a proposal to be made by Mehemet Ali to the Sultan, and to be accepted by the latter, seems to be just, and to be founded on a correct principle; and the object for which my despatch to Lord Ponsonby was written, appears to be as attainable by the course recommended by Prince Metternich, as by that which was suggested in my despatch.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 16.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Beauvale.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, November* 14, 1840.

YOUR Excellency's despatches to the 1st instant, have been received and laid before the Queen.

With reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 28th ultimo, reporting that the Austrian Government are about to despatch to the coast of Syria five-and-twenty officers of different arms, a supply of arms, and a reinforcement of marines, I have to instruct you to express to Prince Metternich the extreme gratification which this information has afforded Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 17.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, November* 9, 1840.

WITH reference to the letter from Mr. Wood to your Excellency of the 8th of October, of which a copy is inclosed in your despatch of October 19, I have to instruct your Excellency to represent immediately to the Porte that the interests of the Sultan and the honour of the British Crown require that the Pasha sent to govern in any part of Syria should be a man who will, actively and in good faith, carry into effect the provisions of the Hatti Sheriff of Gulhané, and fulfil the promises made to the Syrians in the name of the Sultan by the British Agent, Mr. Wood. Whatever may be the merits and good qualities of Izzet Pasha, and Her Majesty's Government do not presume to question them, it is evident that he is not a man well qualified for the particular duty which has been imposed upon him as Pasha of Syria, and therefore Her Majesty's Govern-

* See Part II. page 311.

ment most earnestly request the Porte to make some different arrangement for Syria, and to send to the Pashalicks of that province Governors better fitted, than Izzet Pasha seems to be, to carry into effect the benevolent intentions of the Sultan, and not only to gain, but also to retain, the confidence and good-will of the Syrians.

Her Majesty's Ambassador at Vienna informs me that the Internuncio will also receive from his Government instructions to the same effect as those which are contained in this despatch.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 18.

Mr. Bloomfield to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 10.)

My Lord, *St. Petersburgh, October* 31, 1840.

I INQUIRED yesterday of Count Nesselrode whether Baron Brunnow had informed him of the instructions on the deposition of Mehemet Ali conveyed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople in your Lordship's despatch* of October 15, and understanding that he had not been made acquainted with the exact contents of this despatch, I read it to his Excellency, and left it with him.

Count Nesselrode has now returned this despatch to me, saying that he should send a messenger to Constantinople to-morrow, with instructions for M. Titow, in conformity with your Lordship's despatch to Lord Ponsonby.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) J. A. D. BLOOMFIELD.

No. 19.

Mr. Bloomfield to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 10.)

(Extract.) *St. Petersburgh, October* 31, 1840.

LAST week a French messenger brought to M. de Barante copies of the despatches† addressed by M. Thiers to M. Guizot on the 3rd and 8th Instant, in reply to your Lordship's despatch‡ to Mr. Bulwer of the 31st of August.

The French Ambassador was first made acquainted, through the foreign newspapers, with the tenor of these despatches.

M. de Barante has read them to Count Nesselrode, but was instructed not to leave any copy, as M. Guizot had been authorized to make such alterations as he might deem advisable.

Count Nesselrode sent for me yesterday, and requested that I would inform your Lordship that no part of M. Thiers' despatch could have the effect of shaking the confidence so happily established between our Governments; that the Convention of July was the pivot on which our relations now turned.

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* Part II. page 311.
† Part II. pages 270, 276.
‡ Part II. page 102.

No. 20.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received November* 13.)

My Lord, *Therapia, October* 21, 1840.

I HAVE inclosed, for your Lordship's information, papers which I could not forward by the messenger of yesterday. They contain some further information respecting affairs in Syria.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 20.

Mr. Wood to the Sheik Yautish el Hadid of Deir-el-Kammar.

(Translation.)

Illustrious Sir, *Dourour, September* 20, 1840.

AFTER informing ourselves of the state of your health, and acquainting ourselves with all that can be pleasing to you, we call your attention to the inclosed copy of the Convention, for the accomplishment of which the Viziers of the Sublime Porte have landed at Kesrowan, with the victorious army, and with troops from the Allied Powers, to expel for ever the government of Mehemet Ali from this country. In consequence we have come to your district, so famous for its loyalty, and have written you the present, to request you will join us without delay. By accompanying the bearer, he will conduct you to the place where we are; but should you not be able to come with all your people and clients, come alone, and leave an order to the inhabitants to follow you quickly, in order to receive the arms destined for them. They shall be protected both by sea and land. We have specified above the object of this letter, and we intend to wait for you and your clients coming, &c., &c.

(Signed) RICHARD WOOD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 20.

Mr. Wood to Admiral Stopford.

Her Majesty's ship "Cyclops,"
Sir, *September* 22, 1840.

CAPTAIN AUSTIN, of Her Majesty's ship "Cyclops," whom I accompanied in his tour to Saïda, will have reported to you his proceedings along the coast, and I trust your Excellency will not deem it out of place if I permit myself a few suggestions, the result of the observations I was enabled to make with the assistance of Captain Austin.

The reports of the messengers which I received while at Djounie, from the villages to the south of Beyrout, coincide in every respect with the conversations I have since had personally with the villagers who came off to us. They assert that they would have joined long since the Sultan's troops at Djounie had it been in their power; but that the watch kept by the Egyptians, and the precautionary measures of the Emir Bechir, whose troops are quartered in their villages in small parties, prevented them from even quitting their homes to follow their daily occupations. Two mountain chiefs, who were received on board to-day, and a letter that was sent off to me, confirm the statement of the mountaineers, who are unanimous in favour of the Sultan.

They propose that 1,000 troops be sent to the river Damour, with from 3,000 to 5,000 stand of arms, which they undertake to distribute in two days. Their desire to have the co-operation of the troops and the

assistance of two or three ships of war, arises from the simple fact, that their presence will frighten away the guards that are placed over them by the Emir Bechir, thereby leaving them free to come for their arms.

The mountain chiefs on board the "Cyclops," are known to be powerful, and men of influence, who were deeply compromised in the late insurrection. One of them posseses five villages, and can arm alone 1,000 of his own men. The Emir Bechir-el-Kasim, whom the Sultan has appointed by his Imperial firman to supersede his uncle the great Prince (also Emir Bechir by name,) resides near these villages ; and notwithstanding his anxiety to join the Sultan's troops, he also has been prevented doing so by the difficulty of reaching in safety the expedition. I believe to have already informed your Excellency of his several messages to me to send troops to open the roads, that he may come to us with 10,000 men, that he has already prepared for the support of the Sultan's expedition.

The foregoing facts tend to show the expediency of sending an expedition of 1,000 men to the river of Damour, or more properly to a point of land running into the sea, a mile to the south of the river, forming altogether a position as strong as Djounie, and equally tenable with the assistance of two ships of war, in the midst of populous villages, and only distant four miles from Deir-el-Kammar, the capital of the mountains, and the residence of Emir Bechir, whom they propose to drive away as soon as they are armed. The chances are, that the Emir Bechir-el-Kasim will come to us immediately ; in which supposition if I am not wrong, then, the whole population of Lebanon will be up in arms to drive away the Egyptians, whose rear will be exposed to their attacks, their provisions will be cut off, and themselves obliged to fall back upon Balbec, leaving the mountains in possession of their inhabitants, and the Turkish troops free to act on some other part of Syria.

The despatching, therefore, of 1,000 men, with two or three ships of war, and a few thousand stand of arms, to take temporary possession of the position alluded to above for this distribution, may be attended with the happiest result, and as such, I beg to submit the suggestion to your Excellency's serious consideration.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) RICHARD WOOD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 20.

Circular Letter addressed to the Emirs and Sheiks of Damour.

(Translation.)

After the usual compliments. *Sidon, September* 27, 1840.

AFTER informing ourselves of the state of your health, we have the honour to inform you, that the Turkish, English, and Austrian troops have captured Sidon. Their endeavours will be directed exclusively to free you from the tyranny and oppression of Mehemet Ali ; and as your loyalty to His Highness the Sultan is well known to every one, we demand of you to use all your efforts in devising the means of coming to us at the river Damour, to be armed, both you and your Chiefs, in order that you may assist us in making you free and happy. May the Almighty extend his protecting hand over you all, &c., &c.

(Signed) RICHARD WOOD.

Inclosure 4 in No. 20.

Circular Letter addressed by Mr. Wood to the Mutuali Sheiks, as noted per margin *.

Most honoured Sirs,

THE troops of His Imperial Highness the Sultan captured Sidon

* Sheiks,—Hassein Suleiman, Hamdi el Behr, Hasan el Muhamed, Fazl el Hasan, Hamd.

yesterday; and it cannot be unknown to you, honoured Sirs, that by the support of the Four Powers they have possessed themselves of Tsour, Caiffa, the mountains of Batroun, and, in short, they are masters of the whole sea-coast; nothing remains now but the capture of Acre. All the Syrians have with great readiness received our arms, to drive out of their country both Ibrahim Pasha and his army.

As all the people and Governors have returned to their duty to the Sultan, conformably to the sacred law (Koran), and as we are actually at Sidon, we write you to come and receive your arms in safety, and you will be rewarded for your services and loyalty. Every security shall be given you; and on your arrival, you, and your people, shall be further informed of facts that will be agreeable and satisfactory to you. Be assured beforehand, that you will be confirmed in your Government; and in the expectation of having the honour of seeing you on Wednesday next, may God give you strength to decide according to the Holy Book.

(Signed) RICHARD WOOD.

Inclosure 5 in No. 20.

Reply of the Mutuali Sheiks to Mr. Wood's Circular Letter.

(Translation.)

After the usual compliments.

AT a most propitious moment we had the honour to receive your orders. We obey, again we obey, and we have already done the needful, and do hereby most formally submit and enter under the cloak of obedience.

Your servant, and all who belong to him, return to their allegiance, which is comprised in the obedience we owe to the Sublime Porte, and to no other; but as we are a numerous people, and we enjoy certain rights and prerogatives which we inherit from our forefathers, being of the same sect (Mutualis) as ourselves, we will send a confidential servant to kiss the hem of your garment, and to represent to your Excellency our position.

All your servants submit to the orders of the Sublime Porte, and may you remain happy to the day of the Resurrection.

(Signed) (L.S.) HASSAN SULMAN,
Chief Sheik.

Inclosure 6 in No. 20.

Letter addressed by the Divan of Sidon to Izzet Pasha.

(Translation.)

IN the name of the Supreme God, of our Prophet, of his Parents, and of his Allies of happy memory.

After prayers and compliments.

We have the honour to expose to your Excellency, who is renowned for his great mercy, that on Sunday last (1st Shaban) the rays of your Excellency's sun broke upon us, by being honoured with a revered despatch from the High Divan of your Excellency, inclosing an imperial firman from the Porte; as we had the honour to hear in a general assembly, and to meditate on, its contents, we rejoiced with a great joy at the goodness of the Almighty, who has deigned to grant us such a remarkable favour and concession, so much appreciated by us all, as that of replacing us under the dominion of the Ottoman Porte. May God give her always the victory. Your servants esteem themselves in especial happy (and we render thanks to our Maker) in having your Excellency of eminent superiority at our head as Governor, according to the tenor of the firman, before which we prostrate ourselves.

One and all of us have lifted up our hands to Heaven, in humble supplication to preserve you to us, to give you the victory, and to cause to exist for ever the sovereignty of our Sultan, the Emperor, and the "Hakan of the Hawakins." May the Almighty preserve him, and maintain his Government to the end of days!

We, moreover, inform your Excellency, that we received this day your honoured Orders, addressed to the Chiefs and Princes of the districts and villages of our neighbourhood, which were given us by Colonel Haled Bey of the 2nd Regiment, and Abdullah Aga, the Secretary, who also instructed us, in the name of your Excellency, to distribute them separately, and to call upon the inhabitants to assist our Consuls to tranquillize the people, and to guarantee to them, in behalf of the Sublime Porte, their property, their lives, and welfare.

Conformably to the above instructions, we have not neglected to publish everything, esteeming ourselves happy in having to perform so sacred a duty.

We take the liberty to address this humble letter, and to subscribe ourselves your Excellency's most humble servants, &c., &c., &c.,

(Signed) HAGI AHMED CALLUA-SHAKINEL-SAKIR,
SEID AHMET, *Governor of the Notables of Saida,*
MAHMOUD DERVISH, (*Mufti.*)

No. 21.

MEMORANDUM.

Londres, le 14 *Novembre,* 1840.

L'INSTRUCTION adressée à Lord Ponsonby sous la date du 15 Octobre dernier, à la suite d'une délibération entre les Plénipotentiaires d'Autriche, de la Grande Bretagne, de Prusse, et de Russie, a constaté l'opportunité qu'il y aurait à ce que les Représentans des Quatre Cours à Constantinople fussent autorisés à annoncer à la Sublime Porte : " que leurs Gouvernemens respectifs, conformément aux stipulations du § 7 de l'Acte Séparé annexé à la Convention du 15 Juillet, croient devoir recommander fortement au Gouvernement de Sa Hautesse que,—dans le cas où Méhémet Ali se soumettrait sans délai, et consentirait à restituer la flotte Ottomane, et de retirer ses troupes de la Syrie toute entière, d'Adana, de Candie, de l'Arabie, et des Villes Saintes,—Sa Hautesse daignât non seulement réinstaller Méhémet Ali dans ses fonctions comme Pacha d'Egypte, mais en même tems lui accorder l'investiture héréditaire du dit Pachalic, d'après les conditions établies par la Convention du 15 Juillet, bien entendu que ce titre héréditaire serait sujet à être révoqué si Méhémet Ali, ou l'un de ses successeurs, venait à enfreindre les susdites conditions."

L'utilité d'adresser à la Sublime Porte une communication conçue dans le sens ci-dessus énoncé, a été unanimement reconnue par les Quatre Cours.

Néanmoins, pour faire ressortir davantage les justes égards dûs aux droits de Sa Hautesse, le Cabinet de Vienne a été d'avis que les conseils que les Représentans des Quatre Cours seraient appelés à adresser au Divan relativement à la réintégration de Méhémet Ali dans le Pachalic de l'Egypte, ne devraient être émis à Constantinople, qu'après que Méhémet Ali eût commencé par recourir en grace auprès de son Souverain, se soumettant aux décisions de Sa Hautesse.

Prenant en considération que cette opinion du Cabinet de Vienne sert à constater de nouveau le respect que les Cours signataires de la Convention du 15 Juillet, portent à l'inviolabilité des droits de souveraineté et d'indépendance du Sultan,—considérant en outre la nécessité d'amener promptement la crise actuelle du Levant à une solution pacifique conforme aux vrais intérêts comme à la dignité de la Porte,—les Plénipotentiaires des dites Cours ont résolu d'un commun accord d'adopter la marche indiquée ci-dessus, afin que le recours en grace et la soumission de Méhémet Ali précédât les démarches amicales que les Représentans Alliés seront chargés de faire pour disposer la Porte à accorder son pardon à Méhémet Ali.

Dans cette vue, désirant accélérer le plus possible le moment où ces démarches pourront avoir lieu à Constantinople, les Plénipotentiaires des Quatre Cours ont jugé opportun de faire signaler sans le moindre délai à Méhémet Ali, la voie qui lui est encore ouverte pour rentrer en grace auprès de son Souverain, et obtenir sa réintégration dans le Pachalic de l'Egypte, nonobstant les événemens décisifs qui se sont déclarés contre lui.

En conséquence il a été convenu en outre de communiquer à l'Ambassadeur de la Sublime Porte, Chékib Effendi, le présent Mémorandum ainsi que l'instructon qui s'y trouve annexée.

(Paraphé) N
P.
B.
B.

(Translation.)

London, November 14, 1840.

THE instruction addressed to Lord Ponsonby on the 15th of October last, in consequence of a deliberation which had taken place between the Plenipotentiaries of Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia, recorded the propriety of the Representatives of the Four Courts at Constantinople being authorised to announce to the Sublime Porte, "that their respective Governments, in conformity with the stipulations of the seventh paragraph of the Separate Act annexed to the Convention of July 15, deem it their duty strongly to recommend to the Government of His Highness, that, in case Mehemet Ali should submit without delay, and should consent to restore the Ottoman fleet, to withdraw his troops from the whole of Syria, from Adana, Candia, Arabia, and the Holy Cities, His Highness should be pleased not only to reinstate Mehemet Ali in his functions as Pasha of Egypt, but at the same time to grant him the hereditary investiture of the said Pashalic, according to the conditions laid down in the Convention of July 15, it being well understood that this hereditary title should be liable to revocation, if Mehemet Ali, or one of his successors, should infringe the aforesaid conditions."

The advantage of addressing to the Sublime Porte a communication couched in the sense above-mentioned, was unanimously admitted by the Four Courts.

Nevertheless, in order to make still more apparent the just respect which is due to the rights of His Highness, the Cabinet of Vienna was of opinion that the advice which the Representatives of the Four Powers should be called upon to address to the Divan, relative to the reinstatement of Mehemet Ali in the Pashalic of Egypt, ought not to be put forth at Constantinople, until after Mehemet Ali should have taken the preliminary step of applying to his Sovereign for pardon, submitting himself to the determinations of His Highness.

Taking into consideration that this opinion of the Cabinet of Vienna serves as a fresh proof of the respect which the Courts, parties to the Convention of July 15, entertain for the inviolability of the Sultan's rights of Sovereignty and independence; considering, moreover, the necessity of speedily bringing the existing crisis in the Levant to a pacific solution, in conformity with the true interests, as likewise with the dignity of the Porte; the Plenipotentiaries of the said Courts have unanimously resolved to adopt the course above pointed out, in order that Mehemet Ali's application for pardon and his submission should precede the friendly measures which the Allied Representatives will be instructed to adopt, in order to incline the Porte to grant its pardon to Mehemet Ali.

With this view, the Plenipotentiaries of the Four Powers being desirous of hastening as much as possible the moment when it will be possible for those measures to take place at Constantinople, have judged it fitting to cause to be pointed out without the least delay to Mehemet Ali, the way which is still open to him to regain the pardon of his Sovereign, and to obtain his reinstatement in the Pashalic of Egypt, notwithstanding the decisive events which have declared themselves against him.

In consequence it was further agreed to communicate to the Ambassador of the Sublime Porte, Chekib Effendi, the present Memorandum, as likewise the instruction thereunto annexed.

(Initialed) N.
P.
B.
B.

No. 22.

Viscount Palmerston to the Lords of the Admiralty.

My Lords, *Foreign Office, November* 14, 1840.

THE Four Powers which, together with the Porte, are parties to the Treaty of the 15th of July, have resolved to recommend to the Porte, through their Representatives at Constantinople, that if Mehemet Ali shall at an early moment make his submission to the Sultan, and agree to restore immediately the Turkish fleet, and to cause his troops to evacuate the whole of Syria, the district of Adana, the Island of Candia, Arabia, and the Holy Cities, the Sultan should, notwithstanding the decree by which he has deprived Mehemet Ali of the Government of Egypt, reinstate Mehemet Ali in that Pashalic.

In furtherance of that resolution, it has been determined by the Representatives of the Four Powers at London, that the intentions of the Four Powers, in this respect, should be made known to Mehemet Ali through the Admiral commanding in the Mediterranean.

I have, therefore, to signify to your Lordships Her Majesty's pleasure that instructions be given to Sir Robert Stopford, directing him to send immediately a competent officer to Alexandria, in order to make the following communication to Mehemet Ali.

The officer so to be sent, will, on his arrival at Alexandria, demand to have an interview with Mehemet Ali, in the presence of Boghos Bey, in order to make to Mehemet Ali a communication from Her Majesty's Government. When admitted, he should state to Mehemet Ali that he is ordered by the British Government to inform him, that if he will make immediate submission to the Sultan, and will deliver into the hands of the officer so sent a written engagement to restore, without further delay, the Turkish fleet, and to cause his troops immediately to evacuate the whole of Syria, the district of Adana, the Island of Candia, Arabia, and the Holy Cities, the Four Powers will recommend to the Sultan to reinstate Mehemet Ali in the Pashalic of Egypt. But the officer will state that this recommendation will be given by the Four Powers, only in the event of the prompt submission of Mehemet Ali, and that the officer is directed to remain three days at Alexandria, to know the decision of Mehemet Ali, and to convey it to Constantinople.

The officer employed should put down the foregoing communication in writing, and after having read it to Mehemet Ali, he should deliver to him the paper on which it is written.

If, at the end of the three days, Mehemet Ali should not have determined to make his submission to the Sultan, the officer should re-embark, and should proceed to Constantinople to make his report to Her Majesty's Ambassador at that Court. If Mehemet Ali should at any time during the three days deliver to the officer the written engagement above mentioned, the officer should immediately proceed with it to Constantinople.

But the officer should require that the written document to be given to him by Mehemet Ali, should be placed in his hands open, so that he may be able to inform himself of its contents; and he will decline to convey it to Constantinople, if he should find that it does not contain the above-mentioned engagement.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 23.

Viscount Palmerston to the Lords of the Admiralty.

My Lords, *Foreign Office, November* 14, 1840.

WITH reference to my other letter of this day's date, I have to signify to your Lordships the Queen's pleasure that the officer who may be sent by Sir Robert Stopford to Alexandria, should be instructed, that if the written document which Mehemet Ali may deliver to him for the purpose of its being transmitted to Constantinople, should contain the expression of a desire on the part of Mehemet Ali to obtain hereditary tenure of the Pashalic of Egypt, the officer shall not on that account decline to receive and to convey the document, provided it shall also contain the engagement mentioned in my other letter of this day.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 24.

Viscount Palmerston to the Lords of the Admiralty.

My Lords, *Foreign Office, November* 14, 1840.

WITH further reference to my other letters of this day, I am to signify to your Lordships the Queen's commands that Admiral Sir Robert Stopford should be informed that he is not in any degree to suspend his operations, or to relax his efforts, on account of the communication which he is instructed to make to Mehemet Ali; but, on the contrary, he should continue to push on with vigour his operations for the purpose of expelling the Egyptians from the whole of Syria, and he should not slacken in his exertions, till he learns from Constantinople that an arrangement has been made with Mehemet Ali.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 25.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 15.)

My Lord, *Paris, November* 13, 1840.

IN my despatch of the 6th instant, I stated that M. Guizot had read to me a despatch which he had written to Baron Bourqueney, and which the French Chargé d'Affaires had received instructions to communicate to your Lordship. I have to express my regret at having led your Lordship into error in regard to the nature of that communication.

M. Guizot has since shown to me the paper he read. It was a private letter, and not an official despatch, which he addressed to Baron Bourqueney; and the French Minister had no intention, in directing the Baron to put your Lordship in possession of the contents of this private letter, to make an official proposition to Her Majesty's Government.

M. Guizot was desirous, before he made any official proposition to your Lordship with regard to France becoming a party to the settlement of the Eastern Question, to ascertain whether it were likely that such proposition would be favourably received, and with this view he wrote his private letter to the Baron de Bourqueney.

Baron Bourqueney having collected from your Lordship's conversation, that the proposal of any arrangement more favourable to Mehemet Ali than the Treaty of July would not be listened to by the Allies of the Sultan, abstained from entering into any explanation of different projects of peace between the Porte and the Pasha, founded upon that basis, to which the French Government was ready to agree.

M. Guizot has told me, unofficially, that according to the first of those projects, the hereditary government of the Pashalic of Acre, as well as that of Egypt, would be conceded to Mehemet Ali; that, according to the second, the Pashalics of Acre and of Tripoli for life, with the hereditary government of Egypt; and, according to a third project, the hereditary government of Egypt, with the Pashalic of Acre and the government of Candia for life. With respect to the suspension of hostilities on a future day to be fixed, and the opening a negotiation for peace, on the basis of the actual state of military occupation at the time of the armistice, as suggested by M. Guizot in the conversation I held with him on Friday last, he said to me this day, that he does not consider that suggestion, which he made only with reference to another of a similar kind made by Baron Bulow to M. Bourqueney, as an official proposition addressed to Her Majesty's Government, but merely as an intimation that in case the Allied Powers should desire the concurrence of France in the settlement of the affairs of the East, the French Government would be ready to enter into negotiation upon that basis.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 26.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 15.)

(Extract.) *Paris, November* 13, 1840.

THE publication of your Lordship's despatch of the 2nd of this month, in which you reply to M. Thiers' despatch of the 8th of October, relative to the deposition of Mehemet Ali, has made great sensation in the political society of Paris. It was nearly the sole subject of conversation at the hotels of the Ministers who received company last night; and M. Guizot was closely questioned by some of his supporters who are the advocates of a pacific policy, as to the construction he put upon your Lordship's despatch, and had some difficulty in satisfying his interrogators that your Lordship, in asserting the right of the Sultan to appoint whom he pleased to govern particular portions of his dominions, did not mean to declare the intention of expelling Mehemet Ali from Egypt. M. Guizot expressed to me his belief, a belief, he said, founded on his reliance on your word, that it was not the intention of the Allies, if they succeeded in driving the Egyptians out of Syria, to attack Egypt.

No. 27.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, November* 16, 1840.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 13th instant, explaining an error in the statement made in your despatch of the 6th instant, relative to the nature of the communication which M. Guizot had desired to make to me, through M. de Bourqueney, before he made any official proposition to me with regard to France becoming a party to the settlement of the Eastern Question.

With reference to this explanation, I have to state to your Excellency, that it must be apparent that the rapid progress of events in Syria has put all contingent suggestions of an earlier date out of the question, even if in any case such suggestions could, as being departures from the Treaty of the 15th July, have been subjects for discussion.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 28.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, November* 16, 1840.

I INCLOSE for your Excellency's information, copies of three letters which I addressed on the 14th instant to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, signifying to their Lordships the Queen's commands as to instructions to be sent to Admiral Sir Robert Stopford to make a communication to Mehemet Ali, in the name of the Four Powers who concluded with the Porte the Treaty of the 15th of July.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 29.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, November* 16, 1840.

IN answer to your Excellency's despatch of the 13th instant, I have to instruct you to state to M. Guizot, that he is quite right in stating, that I said to him before he left England that it is not the intention or wish of the Allies to expel Mehemet Ali from Egypt, and that the object of the operations now in progress is to restore Syria to the direct authority of the Sultan; and the instructions to Sir Robert Stopford, of which I send you copies, and which you will read confidentially to M. Guizot, are a proof of the sincerity of the statement which I made to him. But M. Guizot must himself see, that the Sultan and his Allies would be in an embarrassing situation, if, after they had expelled the Egyptians from Syria, Mehemet Ali should still refuse to make his submission to the Sultan, should persist in retaining the Turkish fleet, and should remain in a posture of armed rebellion.

It may be hoped, however, that there is little chance of such a state of things; and it is probable that the communication which Sir Robert Stopford has been instructed to make to Mehemet Ali, may bring about a satisfactory settlement of these affairs.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 30.

Colonel Sir Charles F. Smith to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 6.)

H. M. S. "Princess Charlotte,"
(Extract.) *September* 19, 1840.

THE orders I had the honour of receiving from the Master-General of the Ordnance, as to stores and detachments, prior to my sailing from Gibraltar, have all been duly executed by me. Considerations of some importance with Sir Robert Stopford, and a belief that immediate advantages, on certain local questions, must result from an interview with Lord Ponsonby, led to an arrangement for my going to Constantinople with despatches; but, I believe, quarantine regulations are likely to put a stop to it. In which case, I will venture to send his Excellency an extract from this communication, in the expectation that his powers may enable him, in part, to anticipate your Lordship's commands, and do much towards guiding us in our present duties and future proceedings with the Turks.

No. 31.

Colonel Sir Charles F. Smith to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received October 21.)

My Lord, *Therapia, Constantinople, October* 2, 1840.

AFTER despatching the letter I had the honour of addressing to your Lordship on the 19th ultimo, it was ascertained that, by passing Constan-

tinople and coming direct to this place, the restrictions of quarantine might be avoided; accordingly, Sir Robert Stopford reverted to his former intention, and ordered a steamer to proceed. For the good of the service upon which I am employed, as well as for every consideration of a personal nature, I rejoice at the measure we adopted.

All questions of a doubtful character that have not been referred to your Lordship by Lord Ponsonby, have been most satisfactorily solved by his Excellency, for whose energetic and successful proceedings with the Authorities on the spot I can never be sufficiently grateful.

We return to the coast of Syria to-morrow, armed with all the powers that can be extended by the Sultan towards fulfilling the commands of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) C. F. SMITH,
Colonel.

No. 32.

Colonel Sir Charles F. Smith to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 15.)

My Lord, *Beyrout, October* 14, 1840.

YOUR Lordship will have been made acquainted through the despatches of the Commander-in-Chief on the Mediterranean station of the surrender, during my absence on duty at Constantinople, of Tyre and Sidon to Her Majesty's ships and vessels.

I have now the satisfaction to inform your Lordship, that on the night of the 9th instant, a report of the troops of Mehemet Ali having evacuated the town of Beyrout reached Sir Robert Stopford. At daylight the following morning Captain Henderson of Her Majesty's ship "Edinburgh," landed with me for the purpose of ascertaining the fact, when he hoisted the Ottoman flag on the works; at 3 A.M., of the 11th, a Colonel of the Egyptian army treated with me for terms of surrender for 2,000 of his officers and men: later in the day the remainder of the Infantry in the camp of Solyman Pasha followed the example, and a detachment from the small force I had the means, in the first instance, of throwing into Beyrout, marched out, under the direction of Lieutenant Aldrich, British Engineers, and took possession of twenty field-guns.

Inclosed are returns of the arms, ammunition, and stores, that have fallen into the hands of the Allied Forces under my command.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) C. F. SMITH,
Colonel Commanding.

P.S.—I have forwarded to Lord Ponsonby the colours of the Egyptian corps, and the flag of Beyrout for presentation to the Sultan. C. F. S.

Inclosure 1 in No. 32.

Return of Ordnance, Ammunition, Stores, Small Arms, Camp Equipage, &c. &c., seized from the Enemy, in their Camp before Beyrout, on the Morning of the 11th of October.

ORDNANCE.			Ammunition Caissons, each containing 168 rounds.	Stores.	Small Arms	Camp Equipage.	REMARKS.
Long 4-pounders	Short 6-pounders.	Short 12-pounders.					
7	9	2	15	Provision for 3,000 men for three or four days.	1,000	Bell Tents, 130	
1	1	..	..	..	..	..	Dismounted.
..	..	..	..	..	1,500	..	Delivered by the prisoners at the gates.

T. GORDON HIGGINS,
Major commanding Royal Artillery.

Beyrout, October 14, 1841.

Inclosure 2 in No. 32.

Beyrout, October 14, 1840.

Return of Ordnance, Ammunition, Stores, Small Arms, Provisions, &c., seized in Beyrout, on the Morning of the 10*th instant.*

DESCRIPTION OF GUNS AND STORES.

Medium Iron Guns, 31, dismounted on the walls.		
Carronades .. .. 4, ditto ditto		
Ammunition, small arms	126,000	
Small arms (unserviceable) taken from the mountaineers on the first insurrection	3,000	stand.
Rice, Wheat, and Bread, for three or four days.		
Common Case, 24 pounders, filled with iron balls	932	rounds.
„ 18 ditto ditto	48	
„ 9 ditto ditto	296	
„ 6 ditto ditto	587	
Round shot, 24 and 12 pounders	200	
Fuzes, common	200	
Port-fires	24	
Slow match, Skeins	18	
Paper, ball cartridge	3	reams.
Flints, musquet	500	

T. GORDON HIGGINS,
Major Commanding Royal Artillery.

No. 33.

Colonel Sir Charles F. Smith to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 15.)

(Extract.) *Beyrout, October* 22, 1840.

THE detention of Her Majesty's ship "Cyclops," which I was informed on board the flag ship would be the first opportunity for the conveyance of despatches to Europe, makes me apprehensive that mine of the 14th will not reach London so early as will other communications of like date, forwarded by way of Constantinople.

I have now the honour to acquaint your Lordship, that Tripoli was evacuated upon, an Austrian corvette (without any hostile intention) anchoring off the town. Tortosa and Latakia are also abandoned. On those events I have to remark that, independently of the increased number of points to look after, they occasion an extension of the flank upon which I do not meditate active operations, and the release for active purposes of about 5,000 of the enemy's troops.

Ibrahim Pasha has concentrated the portion of his original force that he can depend upon, at Zahle, where, and at Damascus, are his principal depôts, having very wisely left the dead weight, and disaffected to be fed by the Turkish Government. From Zahle, he can move by easy lines of communication upon any of the almost defenceless towns we hold; and he, probably, will do so when the season becomes so far advanced as to cause the ships of war to quit their anchorage on the coast.

Amidst interruptions of the most perplexing nature, I have been endeavouring to restore order.

I have to carry on the details of the whole Turkish force. At Sidon I am endeavouring to raise a corps of cavalry, which will be essentially important when the base of operations rests, as I intend it should do, upon that place and Tyre.

P.S.—The European troops are extremely unhealthy; this day's return gives 25 per cent. in hospital: and, since writing the letter, of which this is a duplicate, the per centage has increased to 30.

No. 34.

Mr. Consul Larking to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 15.)

My Lord, *Alexandria, October* 16, 1840.

SINCE I had the honour to address your Lordship on the 6th instant, nothing of material importance has occurred.

The country remains quiet, with the exception of a slight manifestation of discontent amongst the Cairo Militia, owing to a report that a part of them were to be sent to Syria.

On hearing this, Mehemet Ali went immediately to Cairo, and by his presence restored tranquillity; and, at the same time, ordered that the communications with Suez, which had undergone a momentary stoppage, should be reopened, and every facility given by the authorities for the transmission of mails and the safe passage of travellers.

Captain Johnson, the East India Company's Deputy Agent, has applied to Mehemet Ali, and obtained from him an officer to escort the mails from Suez should they arrive, in which case we may expect them at Alexandria on the 21st or 22nd instant.

Great activity prevails in strengthening the fortifications of Alexandria under the superintendence of Colonel Galisse. The equipment of the combined fleet is going on, and nearly completed; the Turkish sailors have not been removed, although their discontent rather increases.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN W. LARKING.

P.S.—*October* 17. Intelligence has been received this morning from Syria of the defection of the Emir Bechir, and the desertion of several regiments in Mehemet Ali's service; and that Solyman Pasha has, consequently, been obliged to evacuate Beyrout, and is endeavouring to join Ibrahim.

No. 35.

Mr. Consul Larking to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 15.)

My Lord, *Alexandria, October* 28, 1840.

IN my last despatch of the 16th instant, I had the honour to inform your Lordship, that Mehemet Ali had received intelligence of the successive defeats of his troops in Syria, and also of the defection of the Emir Bechir.

This intelligence at first affected him much, but has not prevented him making the greatest efforts to support his son Ibrahim; in this view he is collecting a large number of camels at Cairo to transport provisions and ammunition.

He has also had recourse to the expedient of recalling from Cairo Sheik Abou Naked and Sheik Ali, and his son, of the family of Abd il Malek. These individuals were partizans of the Sheik Bechir, who was killed about fifteen years ago, and have been for the last seven years living at Cairo in a sort of honourable captivity, at the instance of the Emir Bechir, who confiscated their property, but afterwards, at Mehemet Ali's request, allowed them its usufruct. They are all of the Druse religion, and are expected to arrive in Alexandria forthwith, when one of them is to receive the pseudo-investiture of the principality of Mount Lebanon.

The Sheiks banished to Sennaar about two months ago have also been sent for, with a view to their liberation, in order that they may combine with the above-mentioned individuals in producing dissension in Mount Lebanon.

Notwithstanding these measures, and the encouragement given him by M. Cochelet and Count Walewski, it is evident, that Mehemet Ali has no longer that confidence in his position which he formerly possessed; and I believe I am correct in assuming, that he has now renounced all hope of being able to retain possession of Syria, if left to his own resources, and

that in his present efforts he is actuated by the vain hope instilled into his policy, through French agency, that if Ibrahim can hold out till the spring, French negotiation will save him, and eventually insure him the possession of those provinces.

Although the influence of France in this country is at present great, If I may venture an opinion, I should say, that Mehemet Ali begins to doubt whether the Government of that nation can assist him in the present crisis, and I think I can perceive a desire on his part for a reconciliation with England. I am led to this conclusion from his conversations, and I think another instance in favour of the assumption, is the great facility he is affording to British commercial interests, both as regards the shipping here, and the assistance he has just afforded in transmitting the India mails from Suez to this port.

These mails arrived here this morning, and proceed at once to Malta by the "Liverpool" steamer.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN W. LARKING.

No. 36.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 21.)

(Extract.) *Vienna, November* 14, 1840.

AS Prince Metternich's last despatches to Paris will have been communicated to your Lordship, I need give no account of their contents.

The immediate motive for writing them arose from the necessity in which the Prince found himself of accounting for his conduct in withholding instructions to the Internuncio to concur in the step prescribed to Lord Ponsonby by your Lordship's despatch of October 15th.

The publication of that despatch in the newspapers led him to apprehend that Austria would be held up as standing in the way of an amicable settlement of existing differences, and he therefore hastened to explain the motives of his conduct.

He took this opportunity of inculcating upon the French Government that the best course they could pursue would be that of determining Mehemet Ali to an early submission.

Having had repeated opportunities of hearing from the Prince his opinion as to the terms which might in that case be granted to the Pasha, I may state that these terms do not include the cession of any part of Syria, which, with the fortress of St. Jean d'Acre, must, in his opinion, be restored entire to the Sultan. With regard to Egypt, the Prince holds that the conditions upon which it may be conceded to Mehemet Ali must depend upon the circumstances of the moment when he shall make his submission. The most advantageous terms upon which it might be granted to him would be hereditarily to him and his descendants. The least advantageous would be those upon which he lately held it, during the Sultan's pleasure. Between these two extreme points there are many modifications, any one of which might be adopted according to the circumstances of the moment. I have represented to the Prince that the notion of granting Egypt hereditarily to Mehemet Ali had been put forwards in the first instance as a compensation for his relinquishment of other parts of the Sultan's dominions, but that if he should delay his submission until Acre had been wrested from him, he would no longer have anything to offer in return for the boon. In this reasoning the Prince fully acquiesced.

If St. Jean d'Acre should neither be taken before the bad weather sets in, nor be ceded by Mehemet Ali during the winter, Prince Metternich is fully prepared to see it attacked in spring; nor do I think that in such a case Austria would withhold such assistance as might be necessary to advance the success of the operation.

No. 37.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received November* 18.)

(Extract.) *Paris, November* 16, 1840.

I RECEIVED yesterday your Lordship's despatches of the 12th and 13th instant.

I communicated this morning to M. Guizot the substance of the despatches, and learnt from him, that Baron Bourqueney's report of his conversation with your Lordship corresponds with the statement made in your Lordship's despatch.

M. Guizot intimated to me, that he felt himself precluded by that conversation from making any further communication on the subject to Her Majesty's Government; and that the French Government would wait for events, prepared to take such course as those events might render expedient.

Count Appony yesterday communicated to M. Guizot a despatch of Prince Metternich, written after the intelligence had reached Vienna of the change of Ministry in France, and of the appointment of M. Guizot to the department of Foreign Affairs. The despatch is written in a very friendly spirit to M. Guizot. Prince Metternich apprehends that in the present excited state of France, a pacific Ministry will have great difficulties to encounter; and conceiving that the settlement of peace between the Sultan and the Viceroy of Egypt will not be complete unless France concurs in it, is disposed to afford facilities for the attainment of that object.

A suggestion is thrown out by the Austrian Minister, that the influence of France should be exerted over Mehemet Ali, to persuade him to solicit his Sovereign to invest him with the hereditary government of Egypt on the condition of his yielding the rest of his possessions, whilst the Four Allied Powers should use their influence at Constantinople to induce the Sultan to comply with the request of the Pasha.

M. Guizot, I hear from Count Appony, gave a favourable attention to this suggestion; indeed, I have reason to believe that he has already written to M. Cochelet, to urge the Viceroy to take the step suggested by the Austrian Minister.

No. 38.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, November* 20, 1840.

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 16th instant, in which you report that a disposition exists on the part of one of the Powers, parties to the Treaty of the 15th July, to make concessions, in regard to Turkish Affairs, to France under M. Guizot, which the Allies declined to make to France under M. Thiers, I have to state to your Excellency that this distinction does not seem founded upon any just ground.

If the Allied Powers refused to France, under M. Thiers, the concessions which M. Thiers demanded, which were, that the whole, or an important portion, of Syria should be left in the occupation of Mehemet Ali, the Allied Powers did not do so on account of any personal feeling on the part of the Allies against M. Thiers, but because they thought that such an arrangement as that desired by M. Thiers would be destructive of the integrity of the Turkish Empire, detrimental to the independence of the Sultan, injurious to the balance of power, and dangerous in its results to the peace of Europe.

Now, none of these considerations can be altered by the circumstance that M. Thiers has been succeeded by M. Guizot, and that the latter directs, for the present, the Foreign Affairs of France; for, even if the force of these considerations depended, which it obviously does not, upon the personal character of the individual who may hold at a particular moment a particular office in France, it must be recollected that the arrangements, to which the concessions in question relate, are meant to

be permanent, while the retention of power by any given individual in France, or in any other country, must necessarily be uncertain and precarious, and, in any case, of comparatively limited duration.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 39.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, November* 14, 1840.

I INCLOSE for your Excellency's information, copies of three letters which I have this day addressed to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, signifying to their Lordships the Queen's commands as to instructions to be sent to Admiral Sir Robert Stopford, to make a communication to Mehemet Ali in the name of the Four Powers, who concluded with the Porte the Convention of the 15th of July.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 40.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 21.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, October* 28, 1840.

THE Sultan did me the honour to grant me an audience on the 2nd inst. All His Majesty's Ministers were present.

I had the honour to lay at His Majesty's feet the standard taken from Ibrahim Pasha on the 10th of October by the Ottoman troops acting under the orders of Commodore Napier.

It was necessary to say a few words to His Majesty, and I inclose a report of them.

His Imperial Majesty was pleased to desire me to assure his august Ally, Her Majesty, of His Imperial Majesty's most grateful acknowledgment of the friendly assistance afforded him by Her Majesty and his Allies, and that he hoped that friendly aid would lead to still more intimate friendship between himself and Her Majesty.

The Sultan was graciously pleased to express his approbation of my conduct.

The standard presented is the standard of the Second Regiment of Guards, and granted to that regiment for its service at the taking of St. Jean d'Acre in 1831. The Second is esteemed one of the best Regiments in the Egyptian service, and Ibrahim was at its head when it lost the standard. The flag is white, having religious sentences upon it, written in golden characters.

Inclosure in No. 40.

Speech made by Viscount Ponsonby to the Sultan when he delivered to His Majesty the Sacred Standard taken by the Turkish Troops from Ibrahim Pasha on the 10*th October*, 1840.

Sire,

I SOLICITED the honour of being admitted to the presence of your Imperial Majesty, that I might lay at the foot of your Majesty's throne the standard taken in battle by your Majesty's valiant troops, and sent to me from the officer who had the happiness to direct the actions of those brave men in the glorious combat of the 10th of October.

A few weeks since, some rebellious subjects of your Majesty boasted that this standard should be displayed before the capital of your empire. The standard is now here, a monument of the triumph of your Majesty's arms, and an evidence of the error of those who proclaimed the weakness of the Sublime Porte, and the power of the late Pasha of Egypt.

No. 41.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 21.)

My Lord, *Therapia, October 28, 1840.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith, copy of a letter which, in obedience to your Lordship's instructions, I have addressed to Admiral Sir Robert Stopford.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

P.S.—The Admiral's despatches will be forwarded by the first opportunity.

Inclosure in No. 41.

Viscount Ponsonby to Admiral Stopford.

Sir, *Therapia, October 25, 1840.*

I HAVE been directed by Lord Palmerston to inform you, that the right of commercial blockade, that is to say, the right of preventing neutral merchant ships from entering a blockaded port, is a belligerent right, which can be exercised only by a State against another State with which it is at war. But no State can be at war with the subject of another State; because war cannot be waged, except with those with whom peace can be made: but no treaty of peace can be concluded with a subject who has no independent will, and who must follow the orders of his Sovereign, in peace or war, and who cannot make peace or war for himself. All we can do is, to prevent the Egyptian ships of war from coming out of port, and by so doing we help the Turkish blockade; but our ships cannot stop nor search any neutral merchantmen, whether English, or French, or other.

Having, in pursuance of Lord Palmerston's directions, made the above communication to you, I beg leave to add, that there is no impeachment of the right of the Sublime Porte to establish a blockade of the strictest nature, and to enforce it by the Ottoman ships of war.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 42.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 21.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, November 1, 1840.*

I REGRET extremely that I could not get means to forward before yesterday to the Admiral his instructions about St. Jean d'Acre. I fear he may have left the coast, to take refuge in Marmorice Bay, before they reach him.

I learn from excellent authority, that the greatest confusion and disaffection prevails in the garrison of St. Jean d'Acre, which consists of 4,000 men, and that Ibrahim Pasha is so suspicious of the chiefs, that he has had one of them (Said Mohamed) arrested, and has ordered Scheriff Pasha, of Damascus, to go there as fast as possible to take the command.

Ibrahim, with from 10,000 to 12,000 men, is near Zachlé, in the plain between Lebanon and Anti-Libanus: I believe the place is named Malacha. He will have the greatest difficulty in obtaining provisions. It is certain that the Haouran and the Ledgea will revolt immediately, and aid the rest of the country. The inhabitants of Damascus are extremely ill disposed towards Ibrahim, and the people of Hebron have risen *en masse*.

The mountaineers have cut off the retreat of the garrison of Tripoli, which was directed on Balbec, and the report is current, and believed, that it was the appearance of a British vessel off Alexandretta that induced the troops (Egyptian) to evacuate Latakia and Tortosa.

The French are endeavouring to raise the Syrians against the Sultan, but their unceasing activity has not succeeded.

A Regiment of 2,500 men and its Colonel deserted from the Egyptians. Izzet Pasha gave the Colonel the rank of Pasha. He has arrived here.

No. 43.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, November* 24, 1840.

I INCLOSE, for your Excellency's information, a copy of a Memorandum which was recorded by the Plenipotentiaries of the Four Powers on the 14th of November, and on which was founded my letter to the Admiralty of that day, directing that Sir Robert Stopford should be instructed to make to Mehemet Ali the communication therein specified.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 44.

Lord William Russell to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 24.)

My Lord, *Berlin, November* 18, 1840.

LORD GRANVILLE, in his despatch to your Lordship of the 23rd ultimo, says, "that M. Thiers spoke of despatches he had received from Count Bresson, which stated that the Prussian Government propose making some propositions to the other parties to the Treaty of the 15th of July, calculated to bring about an arrangement between the Sultan and Mehemet Ali, in which the French Government might concur." I asked Baron Werther if it was so, as he had never spoken to me of these propositions; his Excellency said that Count Bresson must have mistaken his meaning, for he never had the intention of making any propositions, and had repeatedly told Count Bresson, that if France wished to become a party to the Convention, she must take the initiative, and that the Four Powers must continue to execute the stipulations of the Treaty until it was accepted by Mehemet Ali.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) WILLIAM RUSSELL.

No. 45.

Mr. Bloomfield to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 24.)

(Extract.) *St. Petersburgh, November* 11, 1840.

COUNT NESSELRODE continues in his opinion, that it is impossible for the Allies to take the initiative in any overture to France; and the despatches since received from Baron Brunnow giving an account of the objections raised by your Lordship to Prince Metternich's proposal of a meeting at Wiesbaden, have confirmed Count Nesselrode in the determination of the Russian Cabinet to await events.

His Excellency read me these despatches this morning, and expressed his reliance in the firmness of the British Cabinet to carry out the stipulations of the Convention of July to their full extent.

Count Nesselrode has learnt from Vienna, that Prince Metternich has modified the instructions to the Internuncio, which it was expected would have been forwarded in exact conformity with your Lordship's despatch to Lord Ponsonby, of the 15th of October.

No. 46.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Bloomfield.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, November* 26, 1840.

BARON BRUNNOW has, from first to last, since he came here in September, 1839, down to the present time, maintained the same tone and held the same language. He has always stated the desire of his Government to settle the arrangements between the Sultan and Mehemet Ali upon the basis originally put forward by England, namely, that the whole of Syria should be restored to the direct authority of the Sultan, and that nothing but Egypt should be left to Mehemet Ali; but Baron Brunnow has never insisted upon his opinions, so as to throw obstacles in the way of a reasonable and satisfactory arrangement.

Baron Brunnow has, ever since the Treaty was signed, held on all occasions the same language as Her Majesty's Government, namely, that the Treaty could not be abandoned and must be executed; but while, on the one hand, before the Treaty was signed, he threw no obstacles in the way to prevent the accession of France thereto, so since it was signed, he has never urged measures calculated to bring on a war between France and the Four Powers.

Now, however, the operations in Syria have been attended with signal success; the French Government has decided for peace, and the Chamber seems resolved to support that policy; and both the Austrian and Prussian Governments have declared that the Treaty must be executed, and that Mehemet Ali can in no case be allowed to retain more than Egypt.

No. 47.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 24.)

My Lord, *Paris, November* 20, 1840.

I RECEIVED by the post on Wednesday last your Lordship's despatches of the 16th of November, and it appearing to me to be important that no time should be lost in communicating to M. Guizot the instructions which the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have been directed by your Lordship's letters of the 14th instant to send to Sir Robert Stopford, I availed myself of the opportunity of my meeting M. Guizot at dinner that evening at the Tuileries, to read to his Excellency confidentially those letters. I also read to the French Minister your despatch in which you observe that the Sultan and his Allies would be in an embarrassing situation, if, after they had expelled the Egyptians from Syria, Mehemet Ali should still refuse to make his submission to the Sultan, should still persist in retaining the Turkish fleet, and should remain in a posture of rebellion. M. Guizot received with satisfaction my communication, and upon my saying that I had been induced to make it at the earliest moment, in order that he might not lose the opportunity of writing to M. Cochelet on the subject of it, by the first steam packet which might leave Marseilles or Toulon for the Levant; he answered, that he would write immediately to M. Cochelet, and give orders by the telegraph that a steam vessel should be ready at Toulon to convey his despatches to Alexandria.

Upon my calling M. Guizot's attention to the passage in your Lordship's despatch to which I have above referred, and on my expressing my conviction that the French Government could not expect, that if Mehemet Ali persisted in his rebellion, the Sultan would be content to abandon his right to the sovereignty of Egypt, and take no measures for the restoration of the Turkish fleet, his Excellency fully acknowledged the embarrassment of that situation, but merely added, "*Alors comme alors,*" meaning, that it will be time enough when such embarrassment shall arise, to consider of the measures which it may be then expedient to adopt. The French Government, however, will make every effort to induce Mehemet Ali to avail himself of the communication which Sir Robert Stopford is now instructed to make to him, and have no doubt of their success, if St. Jean d'Acre shall have fallen, or is likely very soon to fall, into the hands of the Allied Powers.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 48.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, November* 24, 1840.

I HAVE to state to your Excellency, that I have been informed upon good authority, that among the communications received at the Foreign Office in Paris from Alexandria, dated the 1st instant, there was one from Count Walewski, stating, that the Egyptians were everywhere greatly dispirited by the successes of the Allies in Syria; and that Mehemet Ali himself was so disheartened, that Count Walewski had had the greatest difficulty in the world to prevent him from yielding to the conditions offered by the Sultan and the Four Powers.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 49.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 29.)

My Lord, *Therapia, November* 8, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a note I received this day from his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and my answer to his Excellency.

The subject is the prolongation of the term within which, by the orders of the Sublime Porte, the blockade of Alexandria, &c., was directed to commence.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 49.

Rechid Pasha to Viscount Ponsonby.

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, *Sublime Porte, le 7 Novembre,* 1840.

LA Sublime Porte a été informée que par suite d'une communication faite d'ordre de M. l'Amiral Stopford au commerce d'Alexandrie, par M. le Capitaine Fisher, commandant le vaisseau de Sa Majesté Britannique, "l'Asia," la mise à exécution du blocus de ce port aurait été ajournée au 20 Novembre.

La Sublime Porte n'a reçu information que par voie indirecte, et en la portant à votre connaissance, M. l'Ambassadeur, je désirerais obtenir de votre Excellence quelque explication au sujet de la mesure qui en est l'objet. Cette mesure, si elle a eu véritablement lieu, doit sans doute avoir été motivée par des raisons puissantes; mais la Sublime Porte les ignore complètement jusqu'à ce jour.

Recevez, &c.,
(Signé) RECHID.

(Translation.)

Rechid Pasha to Viscount Ponsonby.

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, *Sublime Porte, November* 7, 1840.

THE Sublime Porte has been informed, that in consequence of a communication made by order of Admiral Stopford to the merchants of Alexandria, by Captain Fisher, commanding Her Majesty's ship "Asia," the enforcement of the blockade of that port was to be deferred until the 20th of November.

The Sublime Porte has only indirectly obtained the information; and in bringing it to your knowledge, M. l'Ambassadeur, I would wish to obtain some explanation from your Excellency respecting the measure therein referred to. This measure, if it has really taken place, must doubtless have been founded on weighty reasons; but the Sublime Porte up to this day is wholly ignorant of them.

Receive, &c.,
(Signed) RECHID.

Inclosure 2 in No. 49.

Viscount Ponsonby to Rechid Pasha.

Therapia, November 8, 1840.

IN reply to the Note dated the 7th instant, which Lord Ponsonby has just had the honour to receive from his Excellency Rechid Pasha, &c., requesting information upon the subject of Admiral Stopford's having ordered Captain Fisher, of Her Majesty's ship "Asia," to inform the commercial body in Alexandria, that the commencement of the blockade was delayed till the 20th of November; Lord Ponsonby regrets that he is unable to give his Excellency any information whatever, as the Sublime Porte is already acquainted, through the indirect channels alluded to by his Excellency, with all Lord Ponsonby knows upon the subject.

No. 50.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received November* 29.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, November* 8, 1840.

THE inclosed paper, entitled "Considérations," &c., was sent to me for my opinion upon the advice given therein to the Sublime Porte with respect to Candia. I gave my approbation to it, with the exception of the proposed grant for life of the Pashalic. Her Majesty's Government have always most justly attached great value to the possession of Candia by the Sublime Porte.

I have recommended the strict execution of the Hatti Sheriff of Gulhané in the island.

Inclosure in No. 50.

Considérations sur l'Administration future de l'Ile de Candie.

(Extrait.) *Le* 4 *Novembre*, 1840.

LA Convention du 15 Juillet ayant retiré à Méhémet Ali l'administration de l'Ile de Candie, la Porte se trouve ainsi appelée aujourd'hui à porter son attention sur les moyens d'établir solidement son autorité dans cette Ile, et je n'hésite pas à affirmer que la première, la seule condition même pour s'en assurer la tranquille possession, réside dans le choix du Gouverneur qu'elle y enverra. Candie ne ressemble à aucune autre dépendance de l'Empire Ottoman. Géographiquement, cette Ile se trouve placée dans une position exceptionnelle. La population, qui est évaluée à 180,000 habitans, compte 150,000 Grecs et 30,000 Turcs seulement, les derniers, maîtres des forteresses et de la majeure partie du plat pays, disposent ainsi des principales ressources matérielles de l'Ile. Les Grecs, moins riches, mais plus nombreux et protégés par leurs montagnes, n'acceptent qu'avec répugnance la suprématie des Turcs; aussi n'ont-ils jamais laissé échapper une occasion pour tâcher de s'y soustraire. A ces causes naturelles de la rivalité entre ces deux fractions de la nation, il faut ajouter le souvenir de la tyrannie que les Turcs ont exercé dans les années précédentes sur les habitans Grecs. Nulle part peut-être, il faut en convenir, les Grecs n'ont eu à subir une plus dure oppression. La révolution Grecque vînt leur offrir l'occasion de se venger, et ils en profitèrent largement; d'horribles cruautés signalèrent en Candie cette période de malheurs, et elles contribuèrent à rendre encore plus profonde la haine réciproque de ces nations rivales.

Mais la révolution Grecque réveilla parmi la population Chrétienne de l'Ile un autre sentiment bien plus dangereux pour l'autorité de la Porte: le désir de l'indépendance. L'intervention des Puissances put seule empêcher cette Ile de se soustraire à la domination Ottomane, mais les Grecs, en se résignant aux décisions des Cabinets, n'ont pas renoncé à l'espoir de s'émanciper un jour de

cette domination ; la proximité et les incessantes provocations de la Grèce ne contribuent que trop à les raffermir dans cet espoir.

Ce fut premièrement en vue de ce danger que la Porte se décida en 1826, à confier la Candie à l'administration de Méhémet Ali, et pendant plusieurs années le Pacha fut obligé d'y entretenir une force de 8,000 à 9,000 hommes pour la maintenir dans l'obéissance. C'est alors qu'il y envoya Moustapha Pacha, d'abord comme Commandant de la troupe, ensuite comme Gouverneur-Général de l'Ile. Par l'énergie de son administration, Moustapha Pacha parvint à comprimer tous les partis. La population Turque, jusqu'à là jouissant d'un pouvoir despotique, fut soumis à un régime régulier ; et les Grecs, contenus par la crainte, et protégés en même temps contre l'oppression des indigènes Musulmans, furent moins disposés d'écouter les instigations de leurs co-religionaires de la Grèce. L'Ile put ainsi jouir d'une tranquillité qu'elle n'avait pas connue sous les délégués de la Porte.

Moustapha Pacha, qui jouissait déjà, à son arrivée dans l'Ile, d'une fortune considérable, y acquit de grandes propriétés, qui augmentèrent son influence et l'attachement encore davantage du pays. Les richesses lui permettant de se passer des extortions, il put donner, lui le premier, l'exemple d'une administration équitable, et se concilier ainsi l'affection et la confiance de la population. En effet il n'y a qu'une voix à son égard, et tout le monde s'accorde à lui reconnaître les qualités d'un bon Gouverneur. Partisan d'ailleurs déclaré de la civilisation, et dépouillé de tout préjugé, il ne se laisse point influencer par des antipathies religieuses, ou par les considérations d'un sentiment exclusif. Aussi la nouvelle de sa confirmation par la Porte a été accueillie avec transport par toute la partie saine de la population ; elle n'a contrarié que ceux qui espéraient trouver dans un changement l'occasion d'accomplir leurs projets coupables. Mais tout en se montrant disposé à faire sa soumission au Sultan, Moustapha Pacha a exprimé le désir d'obtenir le gouvernement viager de l'Ile. Si l'on considère cette demande comme une condition imposée par Moustapha Pacha, elle paraîtra avec raison absurde ; mais d'abord ce n'est pas sous ce point de vue qu'il faut l'envisager. Moustapha Pacha est prêt à remettre l'Ile sur la simple injonction du Sultan : il voudrait seulement qu'on ajoutât à la faveur de sa confirmation celle de le nommer viagèrement, non seulement dans l'intérêt de son propre avenir, mais encore dans celui de la tranquillité de l'Ile à laquelle il doit nécessairement s'intéresser en sa qualité de grand propriétaire. En effet s'il ne fût nommé Gouverneur de Candie qu'au même titre que les autres Pachas, c'est à dire avec la perspective d'être remplacé peut-être un an après, les esprits momentanément apaisés ne renonceront pas entièrement à l'espoir de réaliser plus tard leurs vues intéressées ; les Turcs d'un côté, les Grecs de l'autre, se prépareront en silence à profiter du premier changement pour renouveler leurs tentatives, et la confiance publique sera toujours en éveil. Si au contraire Moustapha Pacha est nommé à vie, les partis, déjà habitués à son administration, et dominés par l'ascendant qu'il a su prendre sur eux, se résigneront au silence, et la Sublime Porte sera ainsi délivrée des embarras et des complications qui lui susciteraient de nouvelles intrigues dans l'Ile. L'essentiel pour la Porte, c'est d'aviser aux moyens d'assurer son autorité, et de la garantir, soit contre les intrigues, soit contre les tentatives extérieures. Si Moustapha Pacha peut remplir cette double devoir, pourquoi ne pas lui en faciliter les moyens ? Assurément on ne craindra pas que l'ambition le porte à abuser de la concession de la Porte pour concevoir des projets d'indépendance ; ce n'est pas un Gouverneur de Candie qui pourra jamais espérer devenir un Souverain indépendant. Il faudrait le supposer fou pour lui prêter l'espoir de se maintenir, lui Musulman, maître d'un pays habité par 150,000 Grecs et par 30,000 Turcs seulement, sans l'appui de la métropole. Dira-t-on qu'il conservera de la sympathie pour son ancien maître Méhémet Ali ? Et qu'importe, pourvu qu'il gouverne bien l'Ile ? Une autre considération fait désirer qu'on laisse à Moustapha Pacha le gouvernement à vie de Candie, c'est de conserver ainsi au service un homme qui, par ses lumières et ses bonnes qualités, pourra être un auxiliaire utile pour la réforme de la bonne cause. Or, qui peut assurer qu'un an après qu'il aura été nommé Pacha de Candie, on ne lui retire cette place pour la donner à quelque favori, si on ne la lui assure pas par une concession viagère ? Vu les élémens divers qui caractérisent l'état intérieur de Candie, et la placent dans une catégorie spéciale, il est certain, que tout changement d'administration dans cette Ile y amènera de grandes perturbations. Alors même que le Sultan

ne voudrait pas même lui accorder explicitement le titre de viager, il faudrait toujours que le firman de sa nomination contînt quelque assurance qui autorisât Moustapha Pacha à espérer que tant qu'il se conduira bien, il conservera sa place. Il semble même important qu'on ne tarde pas à lui faire parvenir ce firman, et à demander sa soumission à l'officielle.

(Translation.)

(Extract.) *November* 4, 1840.

THE Convention of the 15th of July having taken away the government of the Island of Candia from Mehemet Ali, the Porte thus finds itself now called upon to direct its attention to the means of firmly establishing its authority in that island; and I have no hesitation in asserting that the principal, the only chance indeed, of securing to it the tranquil possession of the island, rests upon the choice of the Governor who is to be sent there. Candia does not bear a resemblance to any other dependency of the Ottoman Empire. Geographically, that island is placed in a singular position. The population, which is estimated at 180,000 inhabitants, reckons 150,000 Greeks, and 30,000 Turks only; the latter, masters of the fortresses and of the greater part of the level country, thus have at their disposal the main resources of the island. The Greeks, less rich, but more numerous, and protected by their mountains, acknowledge with reluctance the supremacy of the Turks; thus they have never neglected an opportunity of endeavouring to escape from it. To these natural causes of rivalry between these two portions of the nation, must be added the remembrance of the tyranny which the Turks exercised in former years over the Greek inhabitants. No where, perhaps, it must be admitted, have the Greeks had to suffer harder oppression. The Greek revolution offered them an opportunity of revenging themselves, and they profited fully thereby: that unhappy period was marked by horrible cruelties in Candia, and those cruelties contributed to render still deeper the mutual hatred of the rival nations.

But the Greek revolution awakened in the Christian population of the island another feeling, still more dangerous to the authority of the Porte—the desire for independence. The intervention of the Powers could alone prevent this island from escaping from the Ottoman dominion; but the Greeks, in submitting to the decisions of the Cabinets, did not relinquish the hope of emancipating themselves some day from that dominion; the proximity and the continual incitement of Greece contribute only too much to strengthen them in that hope.

It was principally with this danger in view that the Porte decided in 1826, upon intrusting Candia to the government of Mehemet Ali, and for many years the Pasha was obliged to maintain a force there of from 8,000 to 9,000 men in order to keep it in subjection. It was at that time that he sent Mustapha Pasha there, first as Commander of the troops, afterwards as Governor-General of the Island. By the vigour of his administration, Mustapha Pasha succeeded in controling all parties. The Turkish population, up to that time enjoying despotic power, was subjected to a regular system of government; and the Greeks, restrained by fear, and at the same time protected against the oppression of the native Mussulmans, were less disposed to listen to the instigations of their co-religionists in Greece. The island was thus enabled to enjoy a tranquillity which it had not known under the delegates of the Porte.

Mustapha Pasha, who already possessed on his arrival in the island a considerable fortune, purchased large estates there, which increased his influence and still more the attachment of the country. Riches enabling him to forego exactions, he was able himself to give an example of a just administration, and thus to gain the affection and confidence of the people. In fact there is but one opinion with respect to him, and all the world agrees in recognizing in him the qualities of a good Governor. Moreover, being an avowed friend to civilization, and divested of every prejudice, he does not allow himself to be in the least influenced by religious antipathies, or by views proceeding from an exclusive feeling. Therefore the news of his confirmation by the Porte was received with ecstacy by all the rational part of

the population; it only vexed those who hoped to find in a change the opportunity of accomplishing their criminal designs. But while he shows himself disposed to make his submission to the Sultan, Mustapha Pasha has expressed a desire to obtain the government of the island for life. If this demand is considered as a condition imposed by Mustapha Pasha, it will with justice appear absurd; but, in the first place, it is not in this point of view that it must be considered. Mustapha Pasha is ready to deliver up the island upon the simple command of the Sultan: he would only wish that to the favour of his confirmation might be added that of his appointment for life, not only for the sake of his own prospects, but also for that of the tranquillity of the island in which he must necessarily be interested as a large proprietor. In fact, if he were only appointed Governor of Candia upon the same footing as the other Pashas, that is to say, with the prospect of being removed perhaps a year afterwards, the minds of the people, quieted for the moment, will not wholly relinquish the hope of carrying into effect at a later moment their interested designs; the Turks on the one hand, the Greeks on the other, will silently prepare to take advantage of the first change, in order to renew their attempts, and public confidence will be always in alarm. If, on the contrary, Mustapha Pasha is appointed for life, the parties, already accustomed to his administration and swayed by the ascendancy which he has gained over them, will submit in silence, and the Sublime Porte will thus be freed from the embarrassments and difficulties which fresh intrigues in the island would bring upon it. The chief object of the Porte is, to consider the means of securing its authority, and of guaranteeing it both against intrigues and against external attacks. If Mustapha Pasha can fulfil this twofold duty, why not facilitate to him the means of doing so? Certainly it will not be feared that ambition will lead him to take advantage of the concession of the Porte to entertain projects of independence; a Governor of Candia can never hope to become an independent Sovereign. He must be thought mad if he is considered capable of hoping to maintain himself, a Mussulman, master of a country inhabited by 150,000 Greeks and by only 30,000 Turks, without the support of the central Government. Will it be said that he will retain sympathy for his former master Mehemet Ali? and what does it signify, provided that he governs the island well? Another consideration makes it desirable that the government of Candia should be left to Mustapha for life; it is, that a man would thus be retained in service who, by his experience and his good qualities, can be an useful assistant towards the reform of the good cause. Besides, who can be sure that a year after he has been appointed Pasha of Candia, that place will not be taken from him to be given to some favourite, if it is not secured to him by a grant for life? Considering the different elements which characterise the internal state of Candia, and place it in a special position, it is certain that every change of administration in that island will create great troubles. Even in the case of the Sultan being unwilling even to grant him explicitly the title of tenant for life, it would still be requisite that the firman of his nomination should contain some assurance which should authorise Mustapha Pasha to hope, that so long as he shall conduct himself well, he shall preserve his place. It even appears important that this firman should be transmitted to him without delay; and that his submission should be officially demanded.

No. 51.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, November* 30, 1840.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 8th instant, I have to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government consider you to have acted quite right, in advising the Porte not to make Mustapha Pasha Governor of Candia for life. It is wholly unnecessary for the Sultan to do so; and by doing so he might create to himself much future embarrassment.

The Turkish Government, however, ought to take great care that the Candiotes, and especially the Greek portion of them, are governed with equity

and kindness, and have no just cause of complaint; but the Sultan should also keep in the fortresses in Candia officers and troops, upon whom he can entirely depend.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 52.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 29.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, November 8, 1840.*

THE inclosed copy of a letter was given me, and is believed to be worthy of credit.

Inclosure in No. 52.

Alexandrie, le 27 Octobre, 1840.

RIEN de nouveau s'est passé pendant cette décade: nous n'avons eu de Syrie l'arrivée d'aucune vapeur. M. Boufort est revenu, voie de terre, de son voyage de Syrie: ses fatigues ont été tellement grandes qu'il vient d'être obligé de garder le lit, étant attaqué d'une fièvre cérébrale. La position d'Ibrahim Pacha, qu'il a vue de ses propres yeux, lui a donné un coup terrible, à lui qui croyait Ibrahim Pacha invincible, même pour les Européens. Nous avons appris à Alexandrie le départ de l'Emir Béchir et de sa famille pour Malte; cela a paru satisfaire Son Altesse. Par la même occasion le Capitaine Fisher a declaré que jusqu'au 20 Novembre les bâtimens neutres en lest pourraient entrer et sortir chargés; que c'est l'Amiral Stopford qui avait voulu favoriser le commerce; que passé ce terme le blocus le plus rigoureux existerait.

La même embarcation Anglaise qui a apporté la nouvelle du départ de l'Emir Bechir pour Malte, a apporté à un négociant Anglais une lettre du Commandant Fisher, dans laquelle il le chargeait au nom de l'Amiral Stopford de ne pas s'adresser à Constantinople pour arranger ses affaires, vu que là étaient ses ennemis, mais de se soumettre à la générosité de l'Angleterre, lui déclarant que s'il faisait cette démarche ses affaires s'arrangeraient à son très-grand avantage.

Son Altesse aurait, dit-on, répondu qu'il connaissait la puissance de l'Angleterre; qu'il savait aussi que cette nation, qu'il avait toujours protégée plus que la France, et cela injustement, avait été la première à tourner ses armes contre lui; qu'il avait choisi la France pour médiatrice; que ces deux Puissances étaient voisines; qu'elles pouvaient s'entendre entre elles, mais que lui ne ferait jamais que ce que voudrait la France. Ayant complètement échoué, l'on a voulu employer l'influence de Boghos Bey, et de M. Anastasi, qui avait reçu une lettre du Comte Medem dans laquelle il l'engageait à appuyer cette démarche. Quand ces deux personnages se sont présentés à Son Altesse pour lui parler du même sujet, Son Altesse les a repoussés avec indignation, disant qu'il n'aurait jamais cru que des gens qui se disaient être ses amis pourraient lui faire une aussi indigne proposition. Le soir le Consul de France étant allé au palais, Son Altesse lui a tout raconté, disant que ces messieurs cherchaient à le détacher de la France. Le même jour (le 24 Octobre) est entré dans le port le "Météor," portant de grandes nouvelles pour le Pacha; d'abord la réponse de M. Thiers au Mémorandum de Lord Palmerston, plus l'ultimatum adressé aux Cinq Puissances. Dans cet ultimatum il serait notifié à la Sublime Porte la révocation de la déchéance de Méhémet Ali, et la déclaration à toutes les Puissances que la France prend sous sa protection Méhémet Ali, et lui garantit ses droits. Quand Son Altesse a eu cette nouvelle, le sang de contentement est monté au visage de Méhémet Ali; au moment, on a craint pour ses jours.

La population est résignée à tout événement: l'on viendrait lui annoncer le bombardement d'Alexandrie, qu'on ne serait pas étonné. Le Nil est toujours à vingt-trois pieds; pour peu que l'hiver soit rigoureux la Basse Egypte ne pourra

pas ensemencer les blés. Le Pacha continue à exiger les droits de terres encore inondées: la misère est à son comble; Alexandrie est obligé de renvoyer des grains dans l'intérieur; le peu de villages qui reste, meurt de faim, leur grain ayant été emporté par l'eau de Nil.

L'on assure que les Anglais ont renoncé au bombardement de St. Jean d'Acre. M. le Comte Walewski est toujours à Alexandrie; il a très-souvent des conférences avec le Pacha, qui l'a pris en très-grande amitié.

Le grand vapeur Anglais de la correspondance des Indes est devant le port, et attend la malle des Indes, qui ne viendra pas à ce qu'on pense.

Le Commandant Fisher a reçu hier le bateau à vapeur le " Vesuvius," qu'il avait demandé, pour s'en servir pour parlement à l'entrée du port lorsque le cas l'exigeait.

(Translation.)

Alexandria, October 27, 1840.

NOTHING new has happened during the last ten days; no steam-vessel has arrived from Syria. M. Boufort has returned by land from his journey to Syria: his fatigues were so great, that he has been obliged to keep his bed, being attacked with a brain fever. The situation of Ibrahim Pasha, which he witnessed with his own eyes, gave him, who thought Ibrahim invincible even by Europeans, a terrible blow. We have learnt at Alexandria the departure of the Emir Bechir and his family for Malta; that has appeared to be satisfactory to his Highness. By the same opportunity Captain Fisher declared, that up to the 20th of November neutral vessels in ballast might enter and depart laden: that Admiral Stopford had desired to favour commerce; that on the expiration of this term the most rigorous blockade would exist.

The same English vessel which brought the news of the departure of the Emir Bechir for Malta, brought to an English merchant a letter from Captain Fisher, in which he charged him (Mehemet Ali) in the name of Admiral Stopford not to apply to Constantinople to settle his affairs, seeing that his enemies were there, but to submit himself to the generosity of England, declaring, that if he took this step his affairs would be settled to his very great advantage.

His Highness is said to have answered, that he knew the power of England; that he knew also that that nation, which he had always protected more than France, and that unjustly, had been the first to turn its arms against him; that he had chosen France for mediatrix; that those two Powers were neighbours; that they might come to an understanding between themselves; but that he would never do anything but what France wished. Having completely failed, it was wished to make use of the influence of Boghos Bey and of M. Anastasi, who had received a letter from Count Medem, in which he requested him to support this step. When these two persons presented themselves to his Highness to speak to him on the same subject, his Highness repelled them with indignation, saying, that he could never have supposed that persons who professed to be his friends could make to him so unworthy a proposal. The Consul of France having gone to the palace in the evening, his Highness told him everything, saying, that those gentlemen were seeking to detach him from France. The same day (the 24th of October) the " Meteor " entered the harbour, bringing great news for the Pasha: first, the answer of M. Thiers to Lord Palmerston's Memorandum, then, the ultimatum addressed to the Five Powers. In this ultimatum the revocation of the dismissal of Mehemet Ali was, it was said, notified to the Porte; and to all the Powers the declaration, that France takes Mehemet Ali under her protection and guarantees to him his rights. When his Highness received this news, a flush of satisfaction appeared on his countenance; at the moment apprehensions were felt for his life.

The populace is resigned to everything that may happen: the bombardment of Alexandria might be announced to it, and it would not be astonished. The Nile continues at twenty-three feet; in case the winter should be severe, Lower Egypt will be unable to sow its corn. The Pasha continues to exact the duties from lands still inundated; misery is at its height; Alexandria is obliged to send grain into the interior; the few people who remain in the

villages are dying of hunger, their grain having been carried off by the waters of the Nile.

It is asserted, that the English have abandoned the bombardment of St. Jean d'Acre. Count Walewski is still at Alexandria; he has frequently conferences with the Pasha, who has conceived a very great friendship for him.

The great English steam-vessel for the Indian correspondence is off the port, and the mail from India is expected, which, as some persons think, will not arrive.

Captain Fisher yesterday received under his orders the steam vessel "Vesuvius," which he had applied for, to be employed as a means of communication at the entrance of the harbour when the case required it.

No. 53.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 29.)

My Lord, *Therapia, November* 8, 1840.

I HAVE learnt privately, but with certainty, that the French Embassy has assured the Sublime Porte that Her Majesty's Government have strongly disapproved of the deposition of Mehemet Ali.

I have found an occasion to state to his Excellency Rechid Pasha, that your Lordship has fully approved of that measure, and considers it a necessary one.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 54.

Extract of a Report from M. Laurin.—(Received from Lord Ponsonby, Nov. 29.)

Beyrout, le 16 *Octobre,* 1840.

VOICI la manière dont s'exprima l'Emir Béchir sur les plans ultérieurs d'Ibrahim Pacha.

On avait formé le projet d'envahir l'Anatolie avec 30,000 hommes de troupes régulières et avec autant de Bachi-bozouk, de Hanadi, et de Bédouins. Mais Méhémet Ali n'était pas d'accord avec lui-même sur la date de l'exécution de ce plan. Il espérait, d'un côté, un arrangement amiable de son affaire et la médiation de la France; il redoutait, de l'autre, l'apparition de l'Armée Russe. Plus tard on promit des renforts qui devaient venir d'Egypte. Mais lorsque l'insurrection des Maronites eût éclaté, on dut renoncer au projet d'invasion, d'autant plus que les chefs de district en Anatolie avec lesquels Méhémet Ali s'était mis en rapport, avaient été pour la plupart destitués et remplacés par des personnes inconnues.

En outre les fonds nécessaires étaient en retard, et les Bachi-bozouk demandaient, d'un ton menaçant, le payement de leurs arrières. L'Armée avait beaucoup de malades, peu de médecins, et un habillement à peine suffisant. Encore au commencement de Février l'Armée régulière était forte de 90,000 hommes, mais elle a été tellement affaiblie par la désertion et la mortalité, qu'à présent il peut à peine être question des deux tiers. Depuis le débarquement des Alliés à Djounie les Egyptiens ont perdu au-delà de 17,000 hommes, et un nombre égal à celui-ci est prêt à se débander dès que l'Armée s'avancera plus loin.

Ibrahim Pacha a douze régimens de Cavalerie, quatre régimens d'Artillerie, et trois régimens d'Infanterie disponibles, et sur lesquels il peut compter. Mais ceux-ci ne pourront être employés que dans la plaine. Le reste de l'Armée est sédentaire et ne peut bouger sans danger pour la possession de la Syrie. C'est ainsi que les 4,000 hommes qui forment la garnison de St. Jean d'Acre, les 800 qui sont à Eskalon, et les 1,400 qui se trouvent aux environs de Gaza, Jaffa et Kaïfa, ne peuvent être déplacés sans compromettre la sûreté de ces places. Il en est de même des 3,000 hommes de Tripoli et de Lataquia.

Dans ces lieux le peuple s'insurgerait aussitôt. La même chose arriverait si on rappelait seulement une partie des 7,000 hommes qui se trouvent actuellement à Antioche. Killis et Antab, Tarsous, Adana, Marache et Albistan, ne comptent que 8,000 hommes qui ont assez à faire pour garder la frontière et les forts de Koulek-boghas et de Beilan. Les garnisons de Homs, Alep, et Hama ne sont fortes que de 6,000 hommes, et Ibrahim Pacha lui-même en a reconnu l'insuffisance. A Damas il n'y a qu'un régiment d'Artillerie et quatre compagnies de Baltadjis. Mais entre Balbek et Zahlé, dans le village de Malaca, se trouve campé Ibrahim Pacha avec 6,000 hommes et sept pièces de campagne derrière un fossé.

Par conséquent, si les Alliés veulent se borner à la guerre de montagne, ils n'auront à combattre, outre les garnisons, que l'Armée de Malaca. S'ils descendent dans la plaine de Balbek, ils y trouveront la Cavalerie, l'Artillerie, et les trois régimens d'Infanterie.

Parmi les troupes mentionnés jusqu'ici on ne comprend pas le 12,000 à 15,000 hommes cantonnés à Orfa, et que Méhémet Ali a poussés en avant dans le but d'atteindre plus tôt Diarbekir, au cas où il ferait une invasion dans l'Anatolie.

L'Emir Béchir pense que cette Armée, composée pour la plupart de troupes irrégulières, pourrait être, sans inconvénient, retirée, et réunie à la susdite Armée de Balbek. Elles présentent alors un effectif de 20,000 à 22,000 hommes. Mais on pourrait s'en rendre maître de la manière suivante.

D'après le plan d'Ibrahim, c'est de Damas que cette Armée doit recevoir ses munitions de guerre et de bouche et toutes ses autres ressources. Elle serait ruinée dès qu'on lui couperait ses communications avec la dite ville, ce qui peut se faire en lançant sur ses derrières les Druses du Haouran, de Hasbié, et de Rahachié, qui sont prêts à s'insurger.

Ibrahim Pacha ne se battrait alors que pour gagner la grande route de Damas à Gonetra et St. Jean d'Acre. Il faudrait ne pas l'arrêter, mais le poursuivre et ne lui couper la retraite qu'à Eskalon et Gaza, où il ne pourrait arriver que très-affaibli. Cette poursuite pourrait être confiée, en toute sûreté, aux insurgés qu'il s'engageait (l'Emir) à organiser et à conduire. Les Chefs les plus influens du Haouran, de l'Anti-Liban, et de Naplous, lui ont fait, dit-il, les propositions les plus acceptables. Il n'a qu'à les sommer de se lever et ils se rendront à son appel.

Pour ce qui regarde les garnisons, elles se soumettront successivement au Sultan après l'expulsion d'Ibrahim Pacha, et de cette manière on épargnerait beaucoup de sang et de matériel.

L'Emir n'était pas à même de nous dire si les magasins, &c. se trouvaient ou non en bon état.

Il pensait que l'Armée était approvisionnée pour quatre mois, mais seulement de pain, de fèves, et de lentilles.

C'est à St. Jean d'Acre, continua l'Emir, qu'on a transporté le blé qu'on a enlevé, sans le payer, aux paysans de la Judée aussitôt après la révolte. A Damas il y a des dépôts de blé considérables, mais pas de bonne qualité.

L'Armée n'est pas payée et n'a pas d'habits pour la saison qui approche. L'esprit dont elle est animée est celui des esclaves ; ce qui les fait rester sous les drapeaux, c'est la crainte des châtimens corporels et l'impossibilité de s'enfuir. Les Chefs de l'Armée sont soumis, mais non dévoués à Ibrahim. Les troupes sont sur un très-mauvais pied avec les indigènes. La répugnance est réciproque et s'accroit journellement. Une révolte générale va être la conséquence d'un état si violent.

Dans le cours de la conversation l'Emir me dit aussi ce qui suit. Méhémet Ali voulait conquérir la Turquie. Il l'aurait pu faire, car Dieu lui avait donné bien de moyens. Mais il n'aurait pu y parvenir que par un régime de justice et d'humanité. Or, il s'en est si peu soucié que les Syriens ne se sont jamais trouvés dans une situation plus affreuse que depuis trois ans. Nulle part on ne trouvait ni justice, ni appui, ni sûreté. Les paysans de la plaine étaient dépouillés par les soldats et par les employés civils, d'abord de leur récolte, ensuite de leurs bestiaux ; après cela on les chassait dans les montagnes. C'est de là qu'ils menacent maintenant de descendre pour se venger cruellement de leurs oppresseurs.

(Translation.)

Beyrout, October 16, 1840.

THIS is the way in which the Emir Bechir expressed himself with respect to the ulterior plans of Ibrahim Pasha.

The plan had been formed of invading Anatolia with 30,000 regular troops, and as many Bachi-Bozuks, Hanadi, and Bedouins. But Mehemet Ali was not decided himself as to the time for the execution of this plan. On the one hand, he hoped for an amicable arrangement of his business, and the mediation of France; on the other hand, he feared the appearance of a Russian army. At a later period, reinforcements from Egypt were promised. But when the insurrection of the Maronites broke out, the plan of invasion was necessarily abandoned; the more so, because the Chiefs of districts in Anatolia, with whom Mehemet Ali had had an understanding, had for the most part been dismissed and replaced by unknown persons.

Besides, the requisite funds were delayed, and the Bachi-Bozuks demanded, in a menacing tone, payment of their arrears. The army had many sick, few medical men, and scarcely sufficient clothing. Up to the beginning of February the regular army was still 90,000 men strong, but it has been so weakened by desertions and by deaths, that at present there cannot be more than two-thirds of that number. Since the disembarkation of the Allies at Djounie, the Egyptians have lost above 17,000 men, and an equal number are ready to disband themselves as soon as the army shall advance.

Ibrahim Pasha has twelve regiments of cavalry, four regiments of artillery, and three regiments of infantry, disposable, and on which he can depend. But these can only be employed in the plain. The rest of the army is stationary, and cannot stir without risking the possession of Syria. Thus, the 4,000 men who form the garrison of St. Jean d'Acre, the 800 who are at Ascalon, and the 1,400 who are in the neighbourhood of Gaza, Jaffa, and Caiffa, cannot be displaced without hazarding the safety of those places. It is the same case with the 3,000 men of Tripoli and of Latakia. In those places, the people would immediately rise in insurrection. The same thing would happen if only a part of the 7,000 men, at present at Antioch, should be recalled. Killis and Aintab, Tarsus, Adana, Marash, and Albistan, do not reckon more than 8,000 men, who have enough to do to guard the frontier and the forts of Kulek Boghas, and of Beilan. The garrisons of Homs, Aleppo, and Hamah, are only 6,000 men strong, and Ibrahim Pasha has himself admitted that they are insufficient. At Damascus there are only one regiment of artillery and four companies of Baltadgis. But between Balbec and Zahlé, at the village of Malaca, Ibrahim Pasha is encamped with 6,000 men and seven field-guns behind a ditch.

Consequently, if the Allies choose to confine themselves to the mountain war, they will, besides the garrisons, only have to contend with the army of Malaca. If they go down into the plain of Balbec they will find there the cavalry, the artillery, and the three regiments of infantry.

Among the troops hitherto mentioned, are not comprised the from 12,000 to 15,000 men stationed at Orfa, and whom Mehemet Ali pushed forward with the object of sooner reaching Diarbekir in case of his invading Anatolia.

The Emir Bechir thinks that this army, composed for the most part of irregular troops, might, without inconvenience, be withdrawn, and united to the aforesaid army of Balbec. They would then offer an effective force of from 20,000 to 22,000 men. But it would be possible to gain the mastery over them in the following way.

According to Ibrahim's plan, this army should receive from Damascus its military stores, its provisions, and all its other equipments. It would be ruined as soon as its communications with the said city should be cut off, which could be done by throwing on its rear the Druses of the Haouran, of Hasbeya, and of Rahachié, who are ready to rise.

Ibrahim Pasha would then only fight to gain the high road from Damascus to Gonetra and St. Jean d'Acre. He ought not to be stopped, but to be pursued, and his retreat should not be cut off except at Ascalon and Gaza, where he could not arrive otherwise than in a very weak state. This pursuit

might with perfect safety be confided to the insurgents whom he (the Emir) undertook to organize and to lead. The most influential Chiefs of the Haouran, of the Anti-Libanus and of Naplous, have, he says, made to him the most acceptable offers. He has only to summon them to rise, and they will obey his call.

As regards the garrisons, they will submit in succession to the Sultan after the expulsion of Ibrahim Pasha, and in this manner much blood and store would be spared.

The Emir was not able to tell us whether or no the magazines were in good condition.

He thought that the army was provisioned for four months, but only with bread, beans, and lentils.

They conveyed to St. Jean d'Acre, continued the Emir, the corn which they carried off without payment from the peasants of Judæa, immediately after the revolt. There are considerable stores of corn at Damascus, but not of good quality.

The army is not paid, and has no clothing for the season which is coming on. The spirit with which it is animated is that of slaves; the fear of corporal punishment, and the impossibility of escaping, cause them to remain with their standards. The Chiefs of the army are submissive, but not devoted to Ibrahim. The troops are on a very bad footing with the natives. The aversion is reciprocal and increases daily. A general revolt will be the consequence of so violent a state of things.

In the course of the conversation the Emir also said to me what follows: Mehemet Ali was desirous of conquering Turkey. He could have done so, for God had given him abundance of means. But he could only have effected it by a just and humane administration. Now, he paid so little attention to this, that the Syrians have never been in a more frightful situation than for the last three years. There was neither justice, nor protection, nor security, in any quarter. The peasants of the plain were plundered by the soldiers and by the civil officers, first of their harvest, then of their cattle; after that they were driven into the mountains. It is from those mountains that they now threaten to descend to take a cruel vengeance on their oppressors.

No. 55.

M. Steindl to Baron Stürmer.—(Received from Lord Ponsonby, Nov. 29.)

(Extrait.) *Beyrout, le 21 Octobre,* 1840.

CE n'est que hier matin que j'ai reçu l'instruction que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'adresser en date du 6 de ce mois, et par laquelle elle a bien voulu me faire connaître l'envoi en Syrie et le but de la mission du Père Etienne, Supérieur-Général des Lazaristes. J'en fus informé par M. Laurin le jour qu'il s'embarqua sur le bateau à vapeur à Alexandrie; aussi craignais-je qu'il ne gagne le Patriarche des Maronites avant que je puisse m'aboucher avec lui.

Mais à mon arrivée devant Djounie, je fus informé du contraire. Le Père Etienne était effectivement arrivé peu de jours avant moi, à bord d'un pyroscaphe Français devant Saïda, venant d'Alexandrie pour empêcher les habitans Catholiques du Mont Liban, par l'influence du clergé, à embrasser la cause du Sultan et à s'armer contre Méhémet Ali. M. Laurin avait profité du même pyroscaphe pour en prévenir M. le Baron Bandeira.

Avant que le Père Etienne eut le temps de descendre à terre, le Père Leroi, Préfet du Couvent des Lazaristes à Antaura sur le Liban, à deux heures de distance de Djounie, et parent du Père Etienne, se rendit auprès de celui-ci, après avoir obtenu le consentement de l'Amiral Stopford, qui lui était nécessaire, comme le Couvent d'Antaura se trouvait en-deçà de nos avant-postes. Cette permission lui fut accordée par l'Amiral Anglais parceque celui-ci n'ignorait pas que le seul conseil que le Père Leroi pouvait donner au Supérieur-Général, dans l'état où se trouvaient déjà les habitans de la montagne et surtout le clergé Maronite, était celui de repartir sur-le-champ, sans même mettre pied à terre. En effet tous les montagnards qui avaient pu se mettre en communication avec

notre camp ou nos vaisseaux, étaient déjà venus chercher des armes et des munitions. De plus il y a en Syrie différens rites Catholiques indigènes; on trouve presque de partout sur le Liban des Maronites, des Melquites (Grecs unis), des Syriens, et des Arméniens Catholiques. Le clergé de ces différentes peuplades, quoique feignant une parfaite harmonie, nourrit une certaine jalousie réciproque qui se manifeste en de certaines occasions; mais les missionnaires étrangers ont éveillé la jalousie commune de tous les prêtres indigènes, quoique ceux-ci tâchent de la déguiser autant qu'ils peuvent; raison pour laquelle le Père Etienne n'aurait guère réussi à gagner le clergé et le Patriarche Maronite.

Aussi le Supérieur des Lazaristes ne fut pas sourd aux conseils du Père Préfet, qui, établi depuis plusieurs années dans ce pays, ne pouvait pas ignorer toutes ces circonstances; il repartit pour Alexandrie peu de jours après son arrivée, ne voulant pas perdre son temps et sa peine sans le moindre résultat, comme les autres Agens Français qui parcourent les montagnes et le littoral de la Syrie. Le bruit qui s'était répandu que d'autres Lazaristes devaient venir pour seconder leur Supérieur, est dénué de fondement.

Ne sachant pas si votre Excellence a été prévenue d'autre part du mouvement que se donnent les Emissaires Français en Syrie pour paralyser les efforts des Anglais et soutenir Méhémet Ali, je croirais manquer à mon devoir si je ne portais pas à sa connaissance ce que j'ai appris.

Ce sont les Consuls de France à Damas et à Beyrout, le Comte Ratti-Menton et M. Déméloise, qui dirigent les ménées de ces Agens, presque tous employés des Consulats de Beyrout et de Damas, Tripoli, Saïda, &c. M. Déméloise a même ordinairement un bateau-à-vapeur à sa disposition pour se rendre plus facilement d'un point de la côte à l'autre, et qu'il envoya à Alexandrie avec la nouvelle de la défection de l'Emir Béchir.

Votre Excellence m'ordonne de la tenir au courant de tout ce qui se passe ici, et surtout des mouvemens d'Ibrahim Pacha. J'ai tâché de le faire aussi bien que j'ai pu dans mon journal, dont j'ai l'honneur de lui soumettre ci-joint la quatrième continuation.

Ce Général parait avoir perdu tout espoir de pouvoir se tenir dans le Liban et garder les villes maritimes de la Syrie. Il parait même craindre d'y laisser des corps d'armée, qu'il finirait par perdre l'un après l'autre, comme cela lui est arrivé à Saïda, Beyrout, Tsour, et à d'autres différentes occasions. C'est pourquoi, après avoir été battu à Beit-hannis par le Commodore Napier, il prit le parti d'évacuer la montagne et les villes maritimes, et de former un corps d'armée plus considérable que ceux qui avaient été défaits aux différentes attaques, dans un camp retranché à Malaca près de Zahlé, dans la plaine qui sépare le Liban de l'Anti-Liban. Il y fit donc venir les débris des troupes battues, quelques régimens qui se trouvaient dans le voisinage, et les garnisons de Tripoli, Tortose, et Lataquié, tout en se bornant à se tenir sur la défensive. Sous peu de jours, et quand ces troupes l'auront rejoint, il se trouvera à la tête d'une armée de 10,000 à 12,000 hommes, dont 1,500 de Cavalerie, avec sept pièces de canon. Ses intentions ne sont pas connues. L'Amiral Stopford pense qu'il pourrait tâcher, voyant la Syrie perdue pour lui, ce qui met l'Egypte aussi en grand danger, de tenter un coup de tête, pour embrouiller les affaires en Europe. Sachant que la Russie enverrait des troupes en Turquie s'il avançait dans l'Asie Mineure, ce que, d'après les assertions de M. Pontois, serait considéré par la France comme une déclaration de guerre, Ibrahim, qui n'a plus beaucoup à perdre et tout à gagner, pourrait avancer en Anatolie, où il ne craint pas de rencontrer beaucoup d'obstacles, et où il compte sur la sympathie de la population Musulmane. L'Amiral Stopford ne put toutefois baser sur rien cette supposition.

Depuis l'entrée des troupes Turques et Anglaises à Beyrout, aussi depuis que le Commodore Napier a cédé à Sir Charles Smith le commandement des troupes de terre, aucun mouvement ne s'est fait de notre côté; on n'a pas même songé ni à fortifier Beyrout, comme ont fait à Saïda le Capitaine Berkeley et le Colonel de Lebzeltern, ni même à envoyer à l'Emir Béchir Kasim, qui se trouve avec 5,000 ou 6,000 montagnards, dont beaucoup manquent d'armes, les fusils, munitions, et vivres, qu'il réclame journellement; raison pour laquelle aussi cet Emir ne peut s'éloigner de Stammana, où il se trouve depuis une dixaine de jours sans rien faire.

Izzet Pacha joue de son mieux le rôle passif qui lui est assigné, sans

pourtant pouvoir déguiser entièrement son dépit, et tout aussi peu son caractère prépotent et féroce, qui lui a attiré la haine de ceux qui furent placés sous ses ordres. Les Anglais ne l'aiment pas malgré sa politesse outrée envers eux, et les Turcs, malheureux de l'avoir pour Général-en-Chef, le détestent tous, quoiqu'il tâche, pour ne point se compromettre vis-à-vis des Européens, de les traiter de son mieux et de cacher cette cruauté dont bien de personnes sont devenues les victimes. Parfois pourtant son caractère se trahit, surtout depuis qu'il s'est blessé à la jambe. Il est parfois d'une brutalité envers ses subordonnés qui s'en plaignent ouvertement: l'autre jour il avait ordonné, en contravention avec le Hatti-Chérif, de donner 500 coups de bâton à son cuisinier pour avoir mis trop de sel dans la soupe; un Dragoman de l'Amiral Stopford, qui, par bonheur pour cet infortuné, se trouvait présent, intercéda pour lui, et obtint sa grâce.

Le vieux Emir Béchir n'est pas encore parti pour Malte; il se trouve toujours à Saïda pour embarquer sa famille. Je pense que le Consul-Général, ainsi que M. l'Amiral Bandeira, auront informé votre Excellence de tout ce qui regarde ce vieillard presqu' octogénaire, qui a puissamment contribué dans ses dernières années au malheur de la nation dont il était le Prince.

(Translation.)

(Extract.) *Beyrout, October* 21, 1840.

I ONLY received yesterday morning the instruction which your Excellency did me the honour to address to me on the 6th of this month, and by which you had the goodness to apprize me of the mission to Syria of the Père Etienne, General-Superior of the Lazarists, and of the object of it. I was informed of it by M. Laurin, the day on which he embarked in the steam-vessel at Alexandria; I was consequently apprehensive lest he should gain over the Patriarch of the Maronites, before I could manage to communicate with him.

But on my arrival before Djounie, I was informed the contrary. The Père Etienne had indeed arrived off Saïda a few days before me, on board a French steam-vessel coming from Alexandria, in order to prevent the Catholic inhabitants of Mount Lebanon, by the influence of the Clergy, from embracing the cause of the Sultan and taking arms against Mehemet Ali. M. Laurin had taken advantage of the same steam-vessel to apprize Baron Bandeira of the fact.

Before the Père Etienne had time to land, the Père Leroi, Prefect of the Convent of the Lazarists at Antaura on the Lebanon, two hours' distance from Djounie, and a relation of the Père Etienne, visited the latter, having first obtained the consent of Admiral Stopford, which was necessary to him, as the Convent of Antaura was within our advanced posts. This permission was granted to him by the English Admiral, because the latter was not ignorant that the only advice which the Père Leroi could give to the General-Superior, in the state in which the inhabitants of the mountain, and especially the clergy, already were, was to return forthwith without putting his foot on shore. In fact, all the mountaineers who had been able to place themselves in communication with our camp or our vessels, had already come for arms and ammunition. Moreover, there are in Syria different native Catholic sects; all over the Lebanon there are Maronites, Melchites, (United Greeks,) Syrian and Armenian Catholics. The clergy of these different people, although feigning entire harmony, cherish a certain reciprocal jealousy which shows itself on certain occasions; but the foreign missionaries have roused the common jealousy of all the native priests, although the latter endeavour to disguise it as much as they can; for which reason the Père Etienne would scarcely have succeeded in gaining over the clergy and the Maronite Patriarch.

Accordingly, the Superior of the Lazarists was not deaf to the advice of the Père Prefect, who, being settled for several years in this country, could not be ignorant of all these circumstances; he set out again for Alexandria a few days after his arrival, being unwilling to lose his time and his trouble without the least result, as the other French Agents who traverse the mountains and the sea-coast of Syria. The report which was spread that other Lazarists were to come to support their Superior, is destitute of foundation.

Being ignorant whether your Excellency has, on the other hand, been made acquainted with the movements of the French emissaries in Syria, in order to paralyze the efforts of the English, and support Mehemet Ali, I should think myself wanting in my duty if I did not bring to your knowledge what I have learnt.

The French Consuls at Damascus and at Beyrout, the Count Ratti-Menton and M. Déméloise, direct the proceedings of these Agents, who are almost all employed in the Consulates of Beyrout, Damascus, Tripoli, and Saida, &c. M. Déméloise likewise has generally a steam-vessel at his disposal, in order that he may go with greater facility from one point of the coast to the other, and which he sent to Alexandria with the news of the defection of the Emir Bechir.

Your Excellency directs me to keep you informed of all that passes in this quarter, and especially of the movements of Ibrahim Pasha. I have endeavoured to do so as well as I could in my journal, the fourth part of which I have the honour to submit to you herewith.

That General appears to have lost all hope of being able to maintain himself in the Lebanon and to keep the maritime towns of Syria. He appears even to be fearful of leaving there the divisions of the army, which he would end by losing one after the other, as happened to him at Saida, Beyrout, Tsour, and on various other occasions. It is for this reason that, after having been defeated by Commodore Napier at Beit-Hannis, he took the course of evacuating the mountain and the maritime towns, and of concentrating a more considerable force than those which had been defeated in the different attacks, in an entrenched camp at Malaca near Zahlé, in the plain which separates the Lebanon from the Anti-Lebanon. He moved upon that point the remains of the defeated troops, some regiments which were in the neighbourhood, and the garrisons of Tripoli, Tortosa, and Latakia, at the same time that he confined himself to the defensive. In a few days, and when these troops shall have joined him, he will be at the head of an army of from 10 to 12,000 men, of whom 1,500 will be cavalry, with seven guns. His intentions are not known. Admiral Stopford thinks that he might attempt, seeing that Syria is lost to him, whereby Egypt also is placed in great danger, to undertake a desperate deed, in order to embroil the affairs of Europe. Knowing that Russia would send troops into Turkey if he advanced into Asia Minor, which, according to the assertions of M. de Pontois, would be considered by France as a declaration of war, Ibrahim, who has no longer much to lose and everything to gain, might advance into Anatolia, where he is not apprehensive of meeting with many obstacles, and where he reckons upon the sympathy of the Mussulman population. Admiral Stopford, has, however, no foundation for this supposition.

Since the entrance of the Turkish and English troops into Beyrout, since also Commodore Napier has given up to Sir Charles Smith the command of the land forces, no movement has been made on our side; they have not even thought of fortifying Beyrout, as Captain Berkeley and Colonel de Lebzeltern have done at Saida, or even of sending to the Emir Bechir Kasim, who has with him 5,000, or 6,000 mountaineers, many of whom are in want of arms, the muskets, ammunitions, and provisions which he daily applies for; for which reason likewise that Emir also cannot remove from Stammana, where he has been for the last ten days doing nothing.

Izzet Pasha plays to the best of his ability the passive part assigned to him, without, however, being entirely able to conceal his disgust, and as little his overbearing and savage character, which has brought down upon him the hatred of those who were placed under his orders. The English do not like him, notwithstanding his excessive politeness towards them, and the Turks, unhappy at having him for their Chief, all detest him, although he endeavours, in order not to compromise himself with regard to the Europeans, to treat them as he best can, and to conceal that cruelty of which many persons have been the victims. At times, however, his character betrays itself, especially since he was wounded in the leg. He acts at times brutally towards his subordinates, who openly complain of it: the other day he had ordered, in violation of the Hatti Sheriff, 500 blows to be given his cook for having put too much salt

into the soup; one of Admiral Stopford's interpreters, who, fortunately for the wretch, was present, interceded for him, and obtained his pardon.

The old Emir Bechir has not yet set out for Malta; he is still at Saida in order to embark his family. I suppose that the Consul-General, as well as Admiral Bandeira, will have informed your Excellency of all that relates to this old man, now nearly eighty, who has powerfully contributed in his latter years to the misfortunes of the nation of which he was the Prince.

No. 56.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received November* 29.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, November* 8, 1840.

I HAVE this evening received the inclosed Report from Mr. Wood.

P.S.—I likewise inclose a Report I received from Sir Charles Smith as an inclosure in one of his letters, which your Lordship may think worth reading.

Inclosure 1 in No. 56.

Mr. Wood to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Beyrout, October* 29, 1840.

THE evacuation of Tripoli, on the 18th instant, has been followed by that of Tortosa, Latakia, and Antioch; the same is reported of Beilan and Scanderoun, and Kourk-Kolak.

The Governor of Tripoli has joined the Sultan's standard, and Mohammed Bey, the commanding officer of the garrison, has been seized by the mountaineers of Akkar. They have also made a great number of prisoners, and have dispersed the remainder of his troops. Many of the troops that evacuated Latakia have deserted and returned to the Sultan.

Ibrahim Pasha is withdrawing his forces rapidly from the frontiers of Asia Minor, according to the report of the Emir Bechir.

Though not anything positive is known with regard to Aleppo, yet it is rumoured that the people have shut the gates of the town against the Egyptian troops, and occupy it in the name of the Sultan.

Sheik Said of Beled Safet to the south has come to me to Beyrout, and I presented him to his Excellency Izzet Pasha, who gave him a Boyourouldi to return to his district, and collect the Sheiks of Beshara, Souf, Gebel Nablous, Gebel el Kods, and endeavour to cut off the communication between Ibrahim Pasha's camp and Acre, which has been done. I could not procure for Sheik Said more than 800 muskets, but the moment arms arrive, either from Malta or Constantinople, he is to be furnished with a sufficient number to enable him to close on the left flank of Ibrahim's army, assisted by the Druses of Hasbeya and Raskeya, who had unanimously declared in favour of the Sultan previous even to their being provided with arms.

Some time since I addressed a circular letter to the Sheiks of the Haouran and el Ledjea, and on the 25th instant twenty-seven of them, accompanied by 200 horsemen, came personally to make their submission.

They were well received; robes of honour were given to them, and they have left yesterday for their homes with instructions to harass the rear of the Egyptians.

The people of the Haouran have already intercepted two convoys, and are carrying on their operations to within a short distance of Damascus.

The mountaineers of Akkar and Sappita to the north of Tripoli, with the Emir Hangiar, will take possession of the road and bridge of Homs and Hamah, and so separate the army of the north from that of the south, the moment we can provide them with 4,000 stand of arms.

I hope, therefore, that in a few days they will have the means of annoying and occupying the right flank of Ibrahim, by which he will be completely hemmed in and surrounded.

I feel confident that the moment Sir C. Smith thinks fit to advance on his front with the Emir Bechir, the natives who are on his rear and flanks will be encouraged to fall or close upon him, when, if the Turkish troops display the same firmness they have shown hitherto, he must either capitulate with his whole army, or be cut to pieces.

If advantage be taken of the enthusiastic feeling of the natives at this moment, and of the panic of the Egyptians, the campaign in Syria ought to terminate in a fortnight hence; if not, the winter may materially change and retard our chances of success.

The French are indefatigable in their intrigues, and endeavour to persuade the Syrians that they are going to war with us in the spring.

Though I hear nothing more of the proposal to Mehemet Ali for their occupation of Acre, yet I am told positively that the last French steamer disembarked at that place four French engineer officers.

To prevent similar occurrences, as also the constant communication of French steamers of war with the coast, coming from Alexandria, I have proposed re-establishing the quarantine, which suggestion having been acceded to, all vessels and passengers coming from Egypt will have to perform ten days' quarantine at Beyrout.

An "Ordre du Jour" will be also published to-morrow based on the one issued by Solyman Pasha, to which the French, I believe, did not then object, condemning to death all who encourage the Sultan's subjects to continue in their disobedience in any manner whatever. I hope it will have the effect of deterring the French emissaries from persevering in their machinations.

The Maronite patriarch has invited Mr. Steindl and myself to go to him to-morrow to receive the documents relative to the rights of the Maronite clergy and nation.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) RICHARD WOOD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 56.

LE bateau-à-vapeur Français qui est arrivé hier, à son départ de la France est allé à Constantinople, de là il est allé à Alexandrie, et de cette dernière ville il a pris des dépêches, et il est arrivé à St. Jean d'Acre. Après son arrivée on a destitué et mis en prison le Gouverneur Heuman Bey, et il a été remplacé par Mahmoud Bey, ex-Gouverneur de Beyrout. Ensuite le bateau est allé à Jaffa, d'où le Commandant du bateau est allé à Jerusalem, et le Gouverneur de cette place a été destitué également et mis en prison. Après cela le bateau est parti de Jaffa, et il a touché à Sidon et Beyrout, d'où il s'est dirigé à Tripoli, et à son retour il doit toucher de nouveau à Beyrout, et après cela il doit se rendre à Acre, d'où il prendra des dépêches, et il ira à Alexandrie, et de là il partira pour France. Ce bateau à son départ de la France avait à son bord le nommé Monfor, lequel, après avoir fait tout le susdit trajet avec le même bateau, a été débarqué à Beyrout.

Le nommé Nicolas Portalis, habitant de Beyrout, est un agent d'Ibrahim Pacha; celui-ci, ayant une fabrique de soie dans le village nommé Bétère, qui est à cinq lieues d'ici, il y va toujours avec le prétexte de sa fabrique, d'où il correspond avec Ibrahim Pacha, et il sert de canal pour la correspondance d'Ibrahim Pacha avec Alexandrie.

D'après les apparences, les Français ont l'intention d'occuper une place sur la côte de Syrie, et probablement cela sera St. Jean d'Acre, et ils débarqueront des troupes avec le consentement de Méhémet Ali.

Octobre 24, 1840.

(Translation.)

THE French steam-boat which arrived yesterday, went from France to Constantinople, from thence to Alexandria, and took despatches from the latter city, and arrived at St. Jean d'Acre. After its arrival, the Governor, Heuman Bey, was deposed, and put into prison, and he was succeeded by Mahmoud Bey, Ex-Governor of Beyrout. The boat then proceeded to Jaffa, from whence the Commander of the boat went to Jerusalem, and the Governor of that place was likewise deposed and put into prison. After this, the boat left Jaffa, and touched at Sidon and Beyrout, from whence it proceeded to Tripoli, and on its return, it is to touch again at Beyrout, and then it is to proceed to Acre, from whence it will take despatches, and proceed to Alexandria, and from thence it will take its departure for France. This boat, on its departure from France, had on board a person named Monfor, who, after having made the whole of the above-mentioned voyage in the same boat, disembarked at Beyrout.

A person named Nicholas Portalis, an inhabitant of Beyrout, is an agent of Ibrahim Pasha; this person, who has a silk manufactory in the village of Betera, which is five leagues distant from hence, goes there continually under the pretence of going to his manufactory, from whence he corresponds with Ibrahim Pasha, and he serves as the channel for the correspondence of Ibrahim Pasha with Alexandria.

According to appearances, the French intend to occupy a place on the coast of Syria, and this will probably be St. Jean d'Acre, and they will disembark troops with the consent of Mehemet Ali.

October 24, 1340.

No. 57.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received November* 30.)

My Lord, *Paris, November* 27, 1840.

I INCLOSE the "Moniteur" of yesterday and to-day, which contain an accurate report of the two first days' debate in the Chamber of Deputies on the Address.

The debate was opened by Marshal Soult. He was succeeded by M. Thiers, who, in a speech of more than three hours, defended the conduct and explained the policy of the Ministry of which he was at the head. M. Thiers avowed that it was his intention to augment the regular army to the amount of 639,000 men, to put into activity 300,000 National Guards, to suspend any explanation with the Allied Powers upon the Affairs of the East until the spring, in order to give the time necessary to prepare these armaments, to persuade Mehemet Ali to avoid taking measures which might prematurely require the interference of France, and then, after this completion of the military preparations, to insist not only on the abrogation of the Treaty of July 15th, but also on a re-consideration of the Treaties of 1815 for the purpose of adopting a new European arrangement, more suitable to the interests and glory of the French nation. Two speeches, one by M. Passy and the other by M. Guizot, occupied the whole time of the Chamber yesterday. M. Passy spoke three hours in defence of the Ministry, of which he was a member; and M. Guizot made an able reply to the speech of M. Thiers of the preceding day.

The official despatches and private letters having reference to the Eastern Question, which were read or quoted in the debate of these two days, were very numerous. The debate will not terminate before the middle of next week, and there will be a majority of more than sixty in favour of the Address. I am informed that twelve or thirteen deputies belonging to the Parti Gauche will, from their love of peace, vote with the Government on this occasion.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 58.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 30.)

My Lord, *Paris, November* 27, 1840.

THE "Moniteur" of this day contains a telegraphic despatch written by the French Consul-General, dated Alexandria, the 11th instant, and stating that Ibrahim Pasha had received orders from Mehemet Ali to retire with all his troops.

I have been informed that M. Cochelet, in the same telegraphic despatch, communicated to the French Government that Mehemet Ali has written a letter to the King of the French, in which he places himself entirely at the disposal of His Majesty, and solicits his good offices in his favour.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 59.

Mr. Bloomfield to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 1.)

My Lord, *St. Petersburgh, November* 17, 1840.

YOUR Lordship's despatches to the 3rd of November were delivered to me by the messenger Barnard on the 14th instant.

In obedience to the instructions contained in your despatch of that day, I have delivered to Count Nesselrode copies of your Lordship's despatch to Earl Granville, of the 2nd of November, and of the despatch therein referred to, addressed by M. Thiers to M. Guizot on the 8th of October.

Count Nesselrode appears highly to approve of your Lordship's despatch, and assured me that nothing could be more satisfactory to him than the tenor of all your late communications to the French Government.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) J. A. D. BLOOMFIELD.

No. 60.

Mr. Bloomfield to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 1.)

(Extract.) *St. Petersburgh, November* 17, 1840.

COUNT NESSELRODE appears satisfied with the speech of the King of the French at the opening of the Chambers, and also with the last news from Paris.

His Excellency has heard from Vienna, that the doubts entertained by Prince Metternich as to the result of the operations on the coast of Syria had subsided.

I inquired whether the late communications from Prussia and Austria had made any impression on the policy of the Imperial Cabinet, and was informed by Count Nesselrode, that he had not felt himself called upon to alter the general instructions to Baron Brunnow, which were, not to deviate from the limits of the Convention of July, but also not to oppose any reasonable overture from France.

The Prussian Minister and Austrian Chargé d'Affaires have urged the necessity of the Allies adopting some measure which would allow France to become a party to the final settlement of the Turco-Egyptian Question; as, without her accession and acknowledgment of the arrangement, whatever it

might be, the work could not be complete; and that it was imperative on the Four Powers to consider beforehand what course they ought to adopt, under the various changes that might arise during the contest now carrying on in the East.

Count Nesselrode appears not to have thought it necessary to meet their wishes in giving any special instructions on these points.

The Constantinople post has been due several days, and our last direct news from Syria is only up to the 14th October.

Count Nesselrode's messenger to London will be despatched on the arrival of the Turkish post.

No. 61.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Bloomfield.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 2, 1840.

I HAVE received your despatch of November 17, in which you state that the Prussian Minister and Austrian Chargé d'Affaires had recommended that the Allies should adopt some measure which would allow France to become a party to the final settlement of the Turco-Egyptian Question.

I have to state to you, that it would seem that the execution of that part of the Treaty of 15th July, which relates to the arrangements to be made between the Sultan and Mehemet Ali, will be completed whenever those arrangements shall have been agreed to by both parties by the aid of the Four Powers; but it is difficult to see in what way France could now come in as a party to the settlement of those arrangements. For France declined to take an active part in the Alliance as a supporter of the Sultan; and in the recent debates in the French Chambers it has been openly avowed that France is the supporter of Mehemet Ali. If then, France were now to come into conference with the other Four Powers, for the purpose of settling the details of the final arrangement between the Sultan and Mehemet Ali, she would come into that Conference as the avowed protector of Mehemet Ali, and would thus bring into the Conference an element of discord instead of the means of conciliation.

No such distinct proposition, however, as that mentioned in your despatch as having been made to Count Nesselrode, has been yet made to Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 62.

Lord William Russell to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 1.)

(Extract.) *Berlin, November* 25, 1840.

BARON WERTHER has just communicated to the King the news of the taking of St. Jean d'Acre, which has given His Majesty the greatest pleasure.

No. 63.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received December* 2.)

My Lord, *Paris, November* 30, 1840.

I APPRIZED your Lordship, in my despatch of Friday last, that I had been informed that the whole of the telegraphic despatch, containing intelligence of the orders given to Ibrahim Pasha to return with his army from Syria, had not been published in the "Moniteur," and that the unpublished part of it stated that a letter had been addressed by Mehemet Ali to the King of the French, placing himself at the disposal of His Majesty, and soliciting His Majesty's intervention in his behalf with the Sultan and the Allies of the Porte. This letter of Mehemet Ali has been received, but the only answer given to it, will be a reference to the advice which M. Cochelet was instructed to press upon Mehemet Ali, to accede to the conditions which Sir Robert Stopford has been authorized to offer.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 64.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received December* 7.)

My Lord, *Paris, December* 4, 1840.

THE general discussion on the Address in the Chamber of Deputies terminated yesterday. It lasted eight days. The "Moniteurs" which I transmit to your Lordship, contain an accurate report of the speeches which have been delivered. Those of M. Guizot, of M. Thiers, of M. Berryer, of M. Lamartine, of M. Villemain, of M. Jaubert, and M. Teste, are the most worthy your Lordship's perusal.

The speeches of M. Thiers and of M. Jaubert, late Minister of Public Works, are remarkable for the disclosure of the views and projects of the late Ministry. M. Thiers avowed that the object of the immense armaments which it was his intention to have proposed had he remained in office, was not only to force a retractation by the Allied Powers of the stipulations of the Treaty of July, but also a revision of the settlement of Europe, as established by the Treaties of 1815. M. Jaubert declared that he waited with impatience for the day of vengeance against England, and in his violent anger, he let out the secret, to the great annoyance of his former Colleagues, that one of the objects of the recall of the French fleet to Toulon, was to seize the Balearic Islands. M. Guizot spoke with great ability, with firmness, and moderation; and Marshal Soult, when attacked yesterday in the Chambers for writing a civil private letter to an English gentleman, in which he expressed his hope for the continuance of the alliance between England and France, notwithstanding the disagreement upon the Eastern Question, answered the attack by referring to the cordial reception he had experienced from the people of England when Ambassador at the coronation of Her Majesty, and said he would repeat now what he had declared at that time, that his wish was for the perpetuity of the alliance between the two countries, as the best guarantee for the peace of the world.

The debate on the paragraphs of the Address will probably be closed to-morrow. The Commission of the Chambers has itself altered the second and third paragraphs, and they have adopted language stronger than they originally proposed respecting the determination of France to watch over the maintenance of the balance of power in Europe, and not suffer it to be infringed.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 65.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, December* 4, 1840.

HER Majesty's Government have learnt, with great satisfaction, from your Excellency's despatch of the 30th ultimo, that the French Government has given to Mehemet Ali advice which is so well calculated to bring to an early and satisfactory conclusion the present troubles in the territories of the Sultan, and which does so much credit to the conciliatory spirit of the Cabinet of Paris.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 66.

Lord William Russell to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 7.)

My Lord, *Berlin, November* 30, 1840.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatches to the 24th of November.

I communicated the substance of them to Baron Werther. His Excellency approves the course pursued by your Lordship, and looks forward with satisfaction to a prompt termination of the Oriental Question.

Baron Werther expressed the hope that no objection would be made to any form that would be agreeable to the French Government, and induce them to join their efforts to those of the Allies to terminate the differences existing between the Pasha of Egypt and the Porte.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) WILLIAM RUSSELL.

No. 67.

Colonel Sir Charles F. Smith to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received November 29.)

My Lord, *St. Jean d'Acre, November* 5, 1840.

ON the 29th ultimo, it was finally determined between Sir Robert Stopford and myself that the siege of Acre should be undertaken. I accordingly detached Omer Bey for the purpose of advancing from Sidon, with 2,000 Turks, upon Tyre, and thence to occupy the pass of the White Mountain to the northward of this place. And, on the 31st, the Admiral made sail from Beyrout roads, having previously embarked in the squadron 3,000 men, under the immediate command of the Pasha Selim, and small detachments of Royal Artillery and Sappers, under Major Higgins, of the former corps, and Lieutenant Aldrich, Royal Engineers.

Omer Bey reached the position assigned to him at the same hour on the 2nd instant that the fleet appeared off Acre.

Owing to light winds, the ships did not get into action till two P.M. on the 3rd, when an animated fire commenced, and was maintained, without intermission, until darkness closed the operations of the day. About three hours later, the Governor, with a portion of the garrison, quitted the town, which was taken possession of by the allied troops at daylight the following morning.

The moral influence on the cause in which we are engaged that will result from its surrender, is incalculable.

During the bombardment, the principal magazine and the whole arsenal blew up. By the explosion, two entire regiments, formed in position on the ramparts, were annihilated, and every living creature within the area of 60,000 square yards ceased to exist; the loss of life being variously computed from 1,200 to 2000 persons. Those who may have been inclined to doubt the fighting qualities of the Egyptian troops, might acquire a lesson from the example of their endurance, if they could but

contemplate the devastation and scene of horror by which this once formidable fortress is enshrouded.

To the Royal Navy, I should be guilty of great injustice, were I to attempt to record services that will be so much more ably detailed by their gallant and respected Commander-in-Chief; whilst the early departure of the despatch-vessel for Malta, and the labour that has devolved on me within the walls, alike deprive me of the means of transmitting returns of ordnance, ammunition, treasure, &c., &c., that have fallen into the hands of the captors, and of giving your Lordship an approximation, even, to the amount of prisoners (over 3000); as many are still coming in, and others are dragged in numbers from their places of refuge and concealment.

To Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, I have reported the measures I have adopted for the temporary administration of the Pashalic of Acre, pending the pleasure of the Sultan.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) C. F. SMITH,
Colonel Commanding.

No. 68.

Brigadier-General Sir Charles F. Smith to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 13.)

My Lord, *St. Jean d'Acre, November 9, 1840.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Return, furnished by the Commanding Officer of Royal Artillery, of ordnance and ammunition found in this fortress, the reason for delay in the transmission having been explained in my despatch of November 5th.

The public treasury had been pillaged, so that a sum not exceeding £5300 was only discovered; this amount I have made the acting Pasha of Acre give credit for in his accounts with the Musteshar Effendi.

The difficulty of restoring order, in every case where an enemy's town has been carried, is too well understood to need particular notice in this place. The propensity, however, of foreigners to plunder, together with Ottoman indolence; the necessity for employing interpreters; and the generalwant of intelligence exhibited by the undisciplined troops that form the mass of my command; have all had their influence in causing some of my orders to be disregarded. Such was the case with respect to five casemates, filled with fixed ammunition, near which the crater of the former explosion was smouldering. Notwithstanding my often repeated instructions, personally given, and the assurance of the staff officers that the ammunition had been removed to a place of security, an awful calamity occurred on the afternoon of the 6th, by the casemates blowing up at intervals of five or six seconds between the ignition of each. In a moment we were enveloped in darkness, accompanied by fragments of masonry, with musket-balls, shot, and exploding shells of every denomination.

The loss in killed and wounded has been considerable; that of the Royal Marines will be duly reported by the proper department to the Lords of the Admiralty. The Acting Commandant of Acre is amongst the former. Captain Collier, R.N., who was standing near me, is badly wounded, and I escaped with a severe contusion, only, in the foot, owing to the sudden interposition of my horse, who was killed by what would otherwise have been my share of the missiles.

The exertions of the Royal Navy and Marines have since been most conspicuous in extinguishing the fire, and in reducing, by precautionary measures, the risk which Turkish evolutions, in the midst of gunpowder, must ever render more or less probable.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) C. F. SMITH,
Brigadier-General commanding.

Inclosure in No. 68.

St. Jean D'Acre, November 9, 1840.

Return of Ordnance, Ammunition, Small Arms, Camp Equipage, Provisions, &c., &c., &c., seized in the town of St. Jean D'Acre on the morning of the 4th of November, 1840:

ORDNANCE.

Iron Guns	32	pounder	9
	24	„	66
	18	„	20
	12	„	31
Grenades	10	inch	7
	8	„	7
Iron Howitzers	24	pounder	2
Brass Guns	18	„	1
	9	„	23
	6	„	75 mounted in Park.
	3	„	1
Brass Howitzers	24	„	13
	12	„	18
	5½	inch	12
Brass Mortars	13	„	7
	10	„	4
	8	„	4
	5½	„	1
Carronade, Iron	68	pounder	1
Iron Mortars	18	inch	9 in store.
	15	„	1
	13	„	1
		Total	313—229 mounted on the walls.

Boxes, Small Arms	580	each box containing 25 muskets.	
Common Case	32	pounder	900
	24	„	500
	18	„	770
	12	„	2,000
	6	„	550
	3	„	400
Round Shot	32	„	1,500
	24	„	1,900
	18	„	5,000
	12	„	3,530
	9	„	9,330
	6	„	1,200
Chain Shot	24	„	650
	18	„	1,650
	12	„	1,900
	9	„	550
	6	„	190
Double-headed Shot	24	„	1,600
	18	„	800
	12	„	1,600
Shells, fixed	32	pounder	550
	24	„	900
	18	„	450
	12	„	3,000
	9	„	1,050
	6	„	2,090
Shells, unfixed	18	inch mortars	1,500
	15	„	2,650
	13	„	2,050
	10	„	1,500
Shells, unfixed	32	pounder	6,800
	24	„	2,500
	18	„	3,950
	12	„	8,500
	6	„	2,600
	3	„	1,500
Barrels, Powder	1896	each barrel containing 112 pounds.	
Portfires, common			3,000
Boxes, Small Arm Ball Cartridge, 2,000 each			2,000 rounds.
Fuzees, common			2,000
Cartridges			
Flannel	32	pounder cartridges 8 lbs. each	1,800
	24	„ 6 „	950
	12	„ 3 „	180
	9	„ 3 „	250
	6	„ 1½ „	1,200

PROVISIONS, STORES, &c. &c.

Wheat, bushels	10,900
Salt „	1,000
Rice „	8,500
India corn „	8,000
Olives, barrels	1,300
Barley, bushels	1,300
Bread, tons	2,500
Butter, jars	110
Glue, bags	100
Charcoal, tons	1
Oil, gallons	2,000
Clothing for soldiers, suits	50
Musket-stocks, wood	3,000
Hair-cloths	100
Anvils for smiths	14
Bellows, smiths'	14
Lathes, turning	2
Lime, bushels	3,000
Spades, common	1,600
Felling-axes	1,300
Shovels	1,000
Axes, pick	2,000
Mill-stones, hand	150
Camp equipage for men	1,000
Cavalry boots, pairs	200
Canvas bags	12
White thread, lbs.	20
Tent-poles	12
Leather skins	212
Three-eight-inch rope, tons	1
Flat iron, tons	6
Bolt iron, „	9
Iron straps	300
Hammers, masons'	200
Screw-plates	7
Screw-taps	60
Vices	10
Old iron, tons	64
Iron axletrees for guns	190
Wire hanks	28
Horseshoes	5,000
Miners' scrapers	40
Hinges, iron	300
Masons' malls, iron	200
Masons' picks	260
Brass cocks	100
Paint brushes	50
Tongs, smiths', pairs	40
Miners' borers	40
Crowbars	30
Chains and hand-cuffs	200
Screws, stocks, and dies, pairs	9
Steelyards, pairs	3
Slowmatch, tons	2
Steel, square, tons	2
Files, of sorts	400
Well-boring tools	200
Grapnels for boats	15
Sheet-lead, tons	6
Pig-lead, „	4
Brass bushes	100
Sheet-iron, tons	1
Marble slabs, round	7
Baskets, sand	7,000
Wire-screens	30
Carts, with wheels	200
Barrows, wheel	100
Door-frames, wood	40
Dried hides	500
Jars of tar	100
Nails, of sorts, tons	2
Sulphur, boxes	40
Bales of cloth	200
Gins for mounting guns	14
Sheep-skins	200
Buckets, small	4,000

T. GORDON HIGGINS,
Lieutenant-Colonel commanding Royal Artillery.

EDWARD ALDRICH,
Lieutenant Royal Engineers.

No. 69.

Brigadier-General Sir Charles F. Smith to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 13.)

My Lord, *Beyrout, November* 13, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to report that, on the passage through Jaffa of such of the Egyptian troops as were enabled to make good their retreat from Acre, they were joined in their retrograde movement towards Alexandria by the Governor and 2,000 men of the garrison.

Selim Aga with 800 Syrians, being the remainder of the enemy's force in Jaffa, determined on giving themselves up to the service of the Sultan in Acre. On the road they were attacked; lost 200 in killed, and were plundered, even to nudity, by the tribes professing fidelity to the Sultan in that section of the pashalic of Acre.

Mustafa Bey failed in his attempt to escape from Jaffa, and was taken prisoner by the inhabitants. Thus your Lordship will perceive that Jaffa is evacuated, but I cannot afford to detach troops for its protection.

I have, &c.,
C. F. SMITH,
Brigadier-General Commanding.

No. 70.

Brigadier-General Sir Charles F. Smith to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 13.)

(Extract.) *Beyrout, November* 16, 1840.

BY way of Constantinople I have been honoured by your Lordship's despatch of 16th ultimo.

On the 21st of the same month, your Lordship will have received Lord Ponsonby's recommendation that I should have the rank of Major-General, and also my despatch from Therapia, dated the 1st, in which I announced my immediate return to Syria, armed with all requisite powers to insure, on my part, a thorough and efficient support to the cause of the Sultan in every branch of the service placed under my controul. My mind is therefore perfectly at ease, as the next packet cannot fail to correct a misapprehension founded upon erroneous data, for I never hinted at health being an obstacle, beyond a temporary personal inconvenience at Djouni, during which the Admiral benefited by my counsel, whilst he held me to be jointly responsible with himself for the result. If ill health contributed to my going to Constantinople with despatches, the service and the Sultan's cause were thereby most extraordinarily advanced.

No. 71.

Brigadier-General Sir C. F. Smith to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 14.)

Head-Quarters, Beyrout,
My Lord, *November* 18, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to report that the City of Jerusalem is under the rule of the Ottoman Government. I have just received official intelligence of the inhabitants, headed by the Judge, having deposed the Governor and made the Egyptian troops in garrison prisoners. Three hundred cavalry in the city had been dismounted for the purpose of serving in the police.

My means of throwing a garrison into the castle of Jerusalem must be consequent on the movements of Ibrahim Pasha, when the current of military events will set to the southward.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. F SMITH,
Brigadier-General Commanding.

No. 72.

Brigadier-General Sir C. F. Smith to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 14.)

My Lord, *Beyrout, November 22, 1840.*

MOST deeply am I impressed by a sense of gratitude for your Lordship's despatch of 23rd ultimo, and for the assistance I shall have in Brigadier-General Michell.

The selection of Colonel Michell is the most happy that could have been made, for his talents and military reputation are as undoubted, as the prospect is certain of our working kindly together; we are associated by ties of chivalrous enthusiasm, fostered in the recollection of services performed in earlier days.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) C. F. SMITH,
Major-General Commanding.

No. 73.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 8.)

My Lord, *Therapia, November 11, 1840.*

I INCLOSE copy of a despatch I have received from Mr. Wood, and I cannot neglect this opportunity of telling your Lordship, that Admiral Walker this morning assured me, that Mr. Wood, by his ability and exertion, had done more towards the success obtained in Syria, than any other man, excepting Commodore Napier.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure in No. 73.

Mr. Wood to Viscount Ponsonby.

Her Majesty's Ship "Thunderer," off Acre,
My Lord, *November 4, 1840.*

ON the 31st ultimo I embarked on board Her Majesty's ship "Thunderer," to accompany the British fleet, and Admiral Walker Bey, on an expedition against Acre, in the bay of which place we arrived on the 2nd instant.

On the 3rd, the vessels took up their several positions off the fortress, and opened a terrific fire soon after two o'clock, P.M., which was continued throughout the day, reducing the town, in a very short interval of time, to a heap of ruins.

During the bombardment, one of the inclosed magazines exploded, sending into the air no less than 1,200 miserable beings, and spreading destruction everywhere by the shower of stones that followed it. Part of the fortifications on the land side suffered greatly from it. The remaining troops abandoned the fortress in the night, information of which being carried on board to Walker Bey, a body of men immediately landed, and Acre was taken possession of in the name of the Sultan, whose victorious standard was seen floating on the ramparts at daybreak.

I can pay no greater tribute to the gallantry of the British, Ottoman, and Austrian Admirals, and of the officers serving under them, than by recording the fact of the capture of Acre in three hours and a half after the signal was made to engage, which fact alone speaks more for their gallantry and exertions in the cause of the Sultan, than any terms of mine can possibly convey.

I visited the town early this morning, where I met Sir Charles Smith and his Excellency Selim Pasha (whose efforts in the service of his Sovereign are beyond all praise); and never have I witnessed such a scene of utter desolation and destruction before. It surpasses all description. Suffice it to say, that the dead bodies of men and of animals, and fragments of walls, meet one's view in every direction.

Sheik Hamid-el-Bek, the Mutuali Chief, about whom I have had already the honour of writing to your Lordship, had received orders to join us outside of Acre. On his way he fell in with the fugitives, and attacked them; but as they had with them seven field pieces, he was obliged to allow them to pass, after losing 200 of his followers.

I need not remark on the joy that the news of the capture of Acre will produce in the country. I trust it will encourage the natives to co-operate actively and heartily with us in dispersing and driving out of Syria Ibrahim Pasha and the remnants of his Army; towards effecting which, I have presented to his Excellency Selim Pasha several influential Sheiks of note, namely: Sheik Said, to take the temporary command of the districts of Safet, Tiberias, Nasra, Sahil Aklif, Shefi Omar, Il Gebel, Saour, and Sahl, and guard, with the assistance of the natives, the passes of Djise-binat-yacoub and Lebtcha Bogas; Sheik Hamid-el-Bek and Sheik Hasn-el Suleiman, to guard the country of Beshara; Sheik Hafly (Turkoman Chief), to guard the road from Djise to Damascus; Sheik Abdul-Rhahman, to take possession of Djebel Halil (Hebron); and Aïsabga, Governor of Gaza, to declare immediately for the Sultan, to govern that district in his name, and to intercept all the convoys from Egypt. Should he consent to act for the Sultan, and I am assured positively he will, an inland communication will be then established as far south as Gaza, bordering on Egypt, and all the intermediate country may be considered as having returned to its allegiance to the Porte.

Some of these Sheiks are to be furnished with arms, and are to cut off all communication with Egypt. They are further directed to cut off Ibrahim Pasha's retreat, if possible, or to be prepared to close on him in case they are ordered to do so.

While I beg respectfully to offer my sincere congratulations to your Lordship on the signal success that has attended your Excellency's efforts to restore Syria to the Sultan, I may be permitted confidently to assert that, if the same energetic measures are steadily pursued, and advantage be taken of the actual demoralization of the Egyptian troops, Ibrahim Pasha must relinquish in a couple of weeks all hopes of further resistance, and must think of securing his retreat to Egypt.

I regret not to have it in my power to state precisely the number of prisoners made, but they may be estimated at nearly 3,000. We had only 14 men killed, and 26 wounded.

Though a great part of the ammunition and stores must have been destroyed by the explosion of the Arsenal, still an immense quantity of *matériel de guerre* remains, among which, I am happy to be able to add, is the park of artillery taken at Nezib.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) RICHARD WOOD.

No. 74.

Mr. Consul Larking to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received December* 9.)

My Lord, *Alexandria, November* 16, 1840.

SINCE I had last the honour to address your Lordship, Mehemet Ali has given unequivocal proofs of his dissatisfaction with the French Government, and evinced the strongest desire to settle differences with the Sultan through the mediation of the Four Powers.

On the 8th instant, M. Cochelet had a public audience, for the purpose of presenting some officers; Mehemet Ali was at the time in conference with Achmet Pasha, and other officers of the fleet, when before them, and in the presence of many Europeans, he loudly complained of the treatment he had received from the French Government, telling M. Cochelet that the present disastrous state of his affairs was entirely owing to his having listened to the counsels of France; then, addressing those around him, he said that he had lost all confidence in the French Government, and had abandoned the hope of its affording him any effectual aid in the present crisis, and that in future he would be guided by his own views.

The following day he received the intelligence of the fall of Acre, which threw him into the deepest dejection; he, however, shortly afterwards despatched a courier to Ibrahim Pasha, with instructions to evacuate the whole of Syria, and intimated to those in his confidence that he was now prepared to give up the Turkish fleet, and comply with all the demands of the Sultan, provided he could be insured the quiet possession of Egypt.

In furtherance of this resolution, he gave orders that the ships of the fleet, which had lately been prepared for service, should be immediately dismantled, and the crews for the time placed in the land batteries, which order is being rapidly executed.

M. Cochelet and M. Walewski, on learning this determination, were most indefatigable in their endeavours to dissuade Mehemet Ali from any attempt at an arrangement with the European Powers, in which France should not be the mediatrix, and for a time he seemed to waver, till the arrival yesterday of the French Post Office steamer, with the intelligence of a change of Ministry in France, appeared to confirm him in his previous resolution.

Being desirous of ascertaining the true state of affairs, I called on Boghos Bey, who confirmed what I have stated in the most positive manner; on which I hinted to him that it might be advisable to acquaint Sir Robert Stopford with the circumstance; to which he replied, that M. Cochelet having informed Mehemet Ali that there was now every prospect of propositions being made to him, regarding which there would be no difference of opinion between the Governments of Great Britain and France, he had decided on taking no step till such propositions were made, but that he nevertheless adhered to his resolution of evacuating Syria, and of giving up the Turkish fleet on being ensured the government of Egypt.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN W. LARKING.

No. 75.

Mr. Consul Larking to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received December* 9.)

My Lord, *Alexandria, November* 24, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship, that on the 22nd instant, Captain Maunsell, of Her Majesty's ship "Rodney," came into the harbour with a flag of truce, being the bearer of a letter from Commodore Napier to Boghos Bey, the purport of which was to demand the liberty of certain Druse Sheiks made prisoners during the late events in Syria, and at the same time recommending him to urge upon Mehemet Ali the necessity of speedily settling his differences with the Sultan, by ordering the immediate evacuation of Syria, and restoring the Turkish fleet; adding, that such acts would ensure him the hereditary Government of Egypt.

Captain Maunsell had an interview with Mehemet Ali, and on the following day returned to the squadron, with the answer of Boghos Bey to the Commodore's letter. In this he states that Mehemet Ali had never entertained the intention of retaining the Turkish fleet; that he was aware of the determination of the Four Powers to grant him the hereditary possession of Egypt; and that he was sending troops to the frontier of Syria, merely with the view of reopening the communications with his son.

I thought it advisable to accompany Captain Maunsell to the squadron, in order to acquaint Commodore Napier with the position of affairs, and particularly with the change in the policy of Mehemet Ali, which was the subject of my last despatch, and of which I have the honour to inclose a duplicate.

Upon these statements, Commodore Napier decided on making another communication to Mehemet Ali, by addressing a second letter to Boghos Bey, in which he called on him to state, clearly and explicitly, the intentions of Mehemet Ali respecting the evacuation of Syria, and the restitution of the fleet, offering, in the event of his complying with the wishes of the Allied Powers on these points, the hereditary Government of Egypt, and every facility in withdrawing his remaining troops from Syria. Captain Maunsell was again charged with this letter, the Commodore coming with us in a steamer to the mouth of the harbour, intending, if the answer to his letter was favourable, to wait on Mehemet Ali, and bring the negotiation at once to a close.

On arriving on shore, I accompanied Captain Maunsell to the palace: it being the season of Ramazan, Mehemet Ali had not left his private apartments, consequently the letter was given to one of his officers. Shortly after he requested to see me in private; and I took this opportunity of pressing on him the expediency of at once complying with the demand of the Commodore, as the only means left him of retaining his position in Egypt, and pointed out the uselessness of further resistance, and of placing himself in opposition to the views of the Allied Powers. He immediately answered, that such was no longer his intention; that for some time past he had made up his mind both to evacuate Syria and surrender the fleet; and that he was prepared to do both on the future position of himself and family being guaranteed by Great Britain or by the Allied Powers. I said, that Commodore Napier was prepared to give the guarantee he required; on which he observed, that he feared that Commodore Napier, although willing to do so, was not invested with sufficient authority to act in a matter affecting the interests of so many Powers, and proposed that immediate notice of his intention should be given to your Lordship, requesting that Her Majesty's Government would give authority for concluding the negotiation on the basis proposed by the Commodore. I then told him that from what I had seen of Commodore Napier, I was confident that he would construe such a proposal into a desire to gain time, to which in the present state of affairs he would never consent. I also added, that up to this present moment no act of hostility had been committed against Egypt; that if unfortunately such an event should occur, it would place him in a very different position; and he might become a suppliant for those very conditions which were now freely offered to him. He then told me, he would take the subject into consideration, and give his answer on the following day; that he was willing to receive the Commodore, who, he hoped, would enter the harbour with the "Medea" steamer. This invitation has been conveyed to the Commodore, who will bring the steamer into port to-morrow, it being too late to do so this evening.

The "Oriental" steam ship having been detained beyond her time, with the view of conveying to your Lordship the earliest intelligence of events passing here, I close this despatch; and should I not have an opportunity of conveying any additional intelligence by this opportunity, I shall avail myself of the earliest that offers.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN W. LARKING.

No. 76.

Mr. Consul Larking to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 9.)

My Lord, *Alexandria, November 26, 1840.*

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship, that in accordance with what I stated in my last despatch, of the 24th instant, Commodore Napier came on shore yesterday morning, and has since been in negotiation with Mehemet Ali, which has so far led to a satisfactory arrangement that there remains but one point on which the Commodore considers it advisable to demand further explanation.

The final propositions made by Commodore Napier were, that Mehemet Ali should give orders for the immediate evacuation of Syria; that the Turkish fleet should be got ready for sea; but that, in consideration of the doubts expressed by Mehemet Ali as to the authority possessed by the Commodore for concluding a Convention, its restitution should not take place until Mehemet Ali should receive official assurances, that the hereditary Government of Egypt should be guaranteed by the Allied Powers.

That point on which there still remains a doubt, arises from a paragraph in the last communication from Boghos Bey, which states, that instructions will be given to concentrate the Egyptian troops in Syria, in order that they may be ready for evacuating that country immediately after the receipt of the approval by the Allied Powers of the present arrangement.

As the Commodore attaches great importance to the immediate and unconditional evacuation of Syria, and as his propositions were principally based thereon, he cannot consent that an opening should exist for any misconception, which might eventually lead to an evasion of the objects contemplated: he has, therefore, made a further communication to Boghos Bey, and I have great hopes that the point will be conceded. The Commodore informs me, that he has sent copies of all the correspondence on the subject to the Admiralty, to which department he refers your Lordship, there having been no time to furnish me with copies, in consequence of his desire that the India mail on board the "Oriental" steam ship should be subjected to no further detention.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN W. LARKING.

P.S.—Since writing the above, I have accompanied the Commodore to Mehemet Ali, and have to report to your Lordship that all doubts as to the immediate and unconditional evacuation of Syria are removed, Mehemet Ali having declared his intention of fulfilling the wishes of Commodore Napier in that respect.

No. 77.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 10.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, November 18, 1840.*

IT is evening of this day; Mehemet Ali must have known of the fall of Acre on the 5th instant; and there are no signs here of his submission to the Sultan. Letters from Alexandria of the 6th, and I believe the 7th, mention continued efforts to reinforce Ibrahim in Syria. The partizans of the French assert that there are discontents in Syria; they state some things as facts, which are almost ridiculous, and cannot be true; but it is true that the French Agents are indefatigable to raise disturbance in that country. I have urged the Ottoman Ministers not to allow success to make them relax in their exertions.

The Porte has recalled Izzet Pasha, which is a great good. Selim Pasha will probably be appointed Governor; Selim, who fought so bravely, and who is faithful. The Porte has given powers to General Jochmus, in conformity with your Lordship's instructions. I have notified the fact to Sir C. Smith, and sent him an extract from the instruction.

I have relieved Mr. Wood from the duty of interpreter to Sir C. Smith, and the consequent confinement to trifling duties that anybody could perform; and I have desired him to resume his active exertions amongst the Syrians, by which he has produced such signal good. I have also directed Mr. Wood no longer to consider himself Vice-Consul; I have instructed him to consider himself absolutely free from the authority and control of everybody in Syria, in his execution of the duties of the trusts reposed in him by the Porte; but to make his reports to me on all he does.

We hear from Alexandria, that the people there are in ardent hope of an attack being made by the Sultan's Allies upon the city, and of their deliverance from Mehemet Ali. It is also said, that an insurrection is not improbable, even without an attack; so odious is the rule of the Pasha, and so great the hatred against his family.

No. 78.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 12.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, November 20, 1840.*

YESTERDAY M. Titow communicated to me the instruction he had just received from St. Petersburgh, directing him to concur in any steps taken by his colleagues, in furtherance of your Lordship's instructions to me, dated 15th October.

We agreed that nothing could be now done under the authority of that instruction, because Mehemet Ali has not made his submission to the Sultan; and the view we took is fortified by our having been informed, that the Internuncio's instructions, corresponding with those in your Lordship's instructions, have lately been modified by recent instructions received from Vienna.

I have the honour to inclose three papers, communicated to me by his Excellency the Internuncio.

No. 1 shows the final arrangement with the Pasha of Candia, for the re-establishment of the Sultan's authority in that island.

No. 2 reports the situation of affairs at Cairo, and shows the loose hold of Mehemet Ali upon the people of that part of Egypt, and to what devices he has been obliged to resort to keep up the fast fading shadow of his ancient authority. This same number further reports the state of things at Alexandria, showing that the authority of Mehemet Ali is there also so low, that the least effort on the part of the Sultan would finally extinguish it.

No. 3 reports occurrences already known to your Lordship, viz., the retreat of the Egyptian troops from the Taurus, Adana, &c., &c., and it states the fact, much to be regretted, that the Turks ill-treat the Christian Rayahs in some parts of Syria, and concludes with the lamentable accident of the explosion at Acre.

With the exception of this last-mentioned event, the contents of these papers bear directly upon the subject-matter of your Lordship's instructions; for they throw a strong light upon the nature and extent of the power of Mehemet Ali, and show that it is limited and unsubstantial. If these reports are true, and they are corroborated by the evidence of all people in this country, who have had means for seeing and hearing what is passing, it will be obvious that those notions of the power of Mehemet Ali, which have been so long cherished and confided in, are unfounded in any reality; and that now, at least, there are no reasons why Mehemet Ali should be treated with any consideration by the Sultan or his Allies. He has resisted to the last; he has been the cause of expense, trouble, and inquietude to all the Powers of Europe; he has defied and deceived the Sultan; and it will only be when resistance is out of his power that he submits. The grounds upon which the French professed to support him have been cut from under them; it is proved, that he cannot add to the general strength of the Ottoman Empire; and it is proved that Mehemet Ali's object was to partition it.

The people of Egypt pray to be delivered from his yoke; they are even more hostile to him than the Syrians, but they have not had the means to show their hatred of him as the others have done.

Inclosure 1 in No. 78.

Rechid Pasha to Baron de Stürmer.

M. l'Internonce, *Sublime Porte, le* 18 *Novembre,* 1840.

LA Sublime Porte désirant faire partir au plus tôt pour Candie Nouri Bey, porteur du firman de confirmation de Moustapha Pacha, comme Gouverneur de cette Ile, me charge de vous prier, M. l'Internonce, de vouloir bien permettre que le brick de guerre Autrichien "Le Montecuculi," seul armement Allié actuellement disponible, conduise Nouri Bey en Candie.

Votre Excellence n'ignore point que Moustapha Pacha est déjà prêt à se soumettre à l'autorité du Sultan, et que la mission de Nouri Bey n'est qu'une mesure de simple forme destinée surtout à faire cesser les incertitudes de l'Ile. Or, la présence d'un bâtiment de guerre Allié, expédié en Candie uniquement pour y conduire ce messager, ne pourrait que puissamment concourir à faire atteindre ce but.

Nouri Bey pourra partir dans trois ou quatre jours, il en restera autant en Candie, et la Sublime Porte désirerait que le "Montecuculi" le ramenât ici.

Recevez, Monsieur, &c.,

(Signé) RECHID PACHA.

(Translation.)

M. l'Internonce, *Sublime Porte, November* 18, 1840.

THE Sublime Porte being desirous to despatch to Candia, as soon as possible, Nouri Bey, who is the bearer of the firman confirming Mustapha Pasha as Governor of that island, directs me to request, M. l'Internonce, that you will have the goodness to permit the Austrian brig of war "Le Montecuculi," the only disposable Allied ship of war, to take Nouri Bey to Candia.

Your Excellency is aware that Mustapha is now ready to submit to the authority of the Sultan, and that the mission of Nouri Bey is merely a matter of form, principally designed to put an end to the state of uncertainty existing in the island. Now, the presence of an Allied ship of war sent to Candia, for the sole purpose of taking this messenger there, cannot fail to have a powerful effect in bringing about that object.

Nouri Bey will be ready to set out in three or four days; he will remain about the same time in Candia, and the Sublime Porte would wish that the "Montecuculi" should bring him back here.

Receive, &c.,

(Signed) RECHID PASHA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 78.

Extract of Letters from Cairo of the 3rd and 5th November, and from Alexandria of the 6th and 7th November, 1840.

CAIRE.

LA ville du Caire est continuellement dans un état d'agitation difficile à décrire. Le Gouvernement cherche à cacher les fâcheuses nouvelles qui lui arrivent de la Syrie, mais tant la prise de Beyrouth, que celle de Tarsous et d'Adana, sont connues. La défaite d'Ahmet Pacha sur l'Oronte vient d'augmenter le nombre des tristes nouvelles.

Pour animer le peuple, on lui fait croire qu'une division de 6,000 va être organisée et expédiée en Syrie, pour renforcer les garnisons de St. Jean d'Acre et de Gaza. Mais on ne sait pas d'où ces troupes surgiront, car il n'y a que treize compagnies d'Infanterie, et quatre escadrons ici et dans les environs.

Aux troupes arrivées du Hedjas on a payé deux mois sur les quarante-sept appointemens arriérés. On voulait faire le même effort à l'égard des escadres, mais les équipages Turques ayant refusé d'accepter un à compte si insignifiant,

on se propose de payer la moitié des arrières en argent comptant et le reste en blé, légumes, &c.

La population est tellement démoralisée que le Gouvernement ayant demandé 65,000 manteaux pour la troupe, les marchands refusèrent de livrer les draps, et une partie des tailleurs, de peur d'être forcés à en confectionner, se sont enfuis.

Méhémet Ali, ayant appris la défection de l'Emir Béchir, a mis en liberté les douze Emirs qu'il voulait envoyer au Sennaar, comme ennemis de l'Emir. Ils rentreront dans leur pays natal pour agir sous les ordres d'Ibrahim Pacha. On ajoute que Raman Beg Gambalat, Abu Nekr, et Amud Sheh, Chefs des Druses arrêtés au Caire, à la demande de l'Emir Béchir seront chargés du commandement de l'expédition des 6,000 susmentionnée.

ALEXANDRIE.

La frégate Française "L'Embuscade," et la corvette "Bourgainville," sont arrivées le 31, dans le port vieux d'Alexandrie. Ces arrivages avaient inspiré de la confiance aux amis de Méhémet Ali, mais quatre jours après on apprit le départ de la flotte Française pour Toulon, et l'enthousiasme se refroidit depuis de jour en jour, à un tel point, que Méhémet Ali est sur le point d'être abandonné par la plupart de ses amis. Il parle encore de ses intentions de sortir avec son escadre, mais personne n'y croit plus. Ce moyen de maintenir le peuple tranquille étant usé, il cherche à l'égarer par les nouvelles que le Consul de Danemarck doit lui apporter de Vienne, et qui seraient très-favorables à sa cause.

Cependant la déchéance prononcée contre lui par le Grand Seigneur commence à faire une impression très-fâcheuse sur le peuple. On lui attribue les dégats causés par le Nil, les maladies de l'armée de la Syrie, les défaites, défections, &c., dernièrement arrivées. Une démonstration de la part des Alliés suffirait pour faire soulever contre Méhémet Ali non seulement le peuple, mais aussi les troupes de terre et de mer. Le Rédif déclare hautement qu'il ne se battra dans aucun cas contre les troupes du Sultan.

(Translation.)

CAIRO.

THE city of Cairo is in a constant state of agitation difficult to be described. The Government seeks to conceal the bad news which arrive from Syria; but the capture of Beyrout, as well as that of Tarsus and Adana, are known. The defeat of Ahmet Pasha on the Orontes has increased the amount of bad news.

In order to animate the people, they are made to believe that a division of 6,000 men is about to be organised, and despatched to Syria, to reinforce the garrisons of St. Jean d'Acre and of Gaza. But it is not known from whence these troops will come, for there are only thirteen companies of infantry, and four squadrons of cavalry here and in the neighbourhood.

The troops, which have arrived from the Hedjaz, have been paid two months out of the forty-seven in arrear. It was intended to make the same effort with regard to the naval squadron, but the Turkish crews having refused to accept so insignificant a sum, it is proposed to pay half of the arrears in ready money, and the remainder in corn, pulse, &c.

The population is so demoralized, that the Government having required 65,000 cloaks for the troops, the merchants refused to furnish the cloth; and some of the tailors, from fear of being forced to make the cloaks, fled.

Mehemet Ali, having learnt the defection of the Emir Bechir, has liberated the twelve Emirs whom he wished to send to Sennaar, as enemies of the Emir. They will return to their native country, to act under the orders of Ibrahim Pasha. It is added, that Raman Beg Gambalat, Abu Nekr, and Amud Sheh, Chiefs of the Druses arrested at Cairo, at the request of the Emir Bechir will be charged with the command of the above-mentioned expedition of 6,000 men.

ALEXANDRIA.

The French frigate "l'Embuscade," and the corvette "Bourgainville," arrived on the 31st, in the old harbour of Alexandria. These arrivals had inspired the friends of Mehemet Ali with confidence, but four days after, they learnt the departure of the French fleet for Toulon, and since that time, the enthusiasm has cooled daily, to such a degree that Mehemet Ali is on the point of being abandoned by the greatest part of his friends. He still talks of his intention of going out with his squadron, but nobody any longer believes in it. This means of keeping the people quiet being worn out, he seeks to mislead them by the intelligence which the Danish Consul is to bring him from Vienna, and which is to be very favourable to his cause.

However, the sentence of deprivation pronounced against him by the Grand Signor begins to make a very unfavourable impression upon the people. They attribute to it the damage caused by the Nile, the sickness in the army of Syria, the defeats, desertions, &c., which have lately occurred. A demonstration on the part of the Allies would be sufficient to raise against Mehemet Ali not only the people, but also the land and sea forces. The militia declare loudly that they will not fight, in any case, against the Sultan's troops.

Inclosure 3 in No. 78.

The Austrian Vice-Consul to the Baron de Stürmer.

Eccelenza, *Vice Consolato Austriaco, Beirut, Novembre* 8, 1840.

HO l'onore da participarle che il Signor de Steindl recherà a vostra Eccelenza la notizia della presa de St. G. d'Acre, ove dopo 26 ore di occupazione, si ebbe il dispiacere di vedervi saltare una mina che distrusse mezzo castello, uccise cento persone fra Inglesi ed Ottomani, feri gravemente il Commandante della fregata Inglese la "Castore," e leggiermente il Generale Sir C. Smith.

L'Ex-Governatore di Beirut, Mahmoud Bey, che col Mudir ed altri uffiziali Egiziani aveva preso la fuga da Acre, conducendo 14 mule cariche del tesoro, fu arrestato dai montanari e ricondotto in Acre assieme a quella scorta.

In quest' istante ricevei la nuova che Ibrahim Pacha richiamando con tutta sollecitudine le sue truppe delle frontieri, circa 8,000 Egiziani vengono di evacuare Kulek Bugaz, Adina, Bailan, Antiochio, &c., ripiegandosi verso Aleppo, che deve essere gia evacuato, abbandonando il loro bagaglio ed uccidendo quei ammalati chi non potevano seguirli.

Il Signore Steindl informerà vostra Eccelenza delle vessazioni insolite e del cattivo ed impunito procedere delle truppe Stambolline verso li Christiani Raya ed il loro Clero, cose che avranno triste conseguenze si non vengono ripresse.

Ho l'onore, &c.,

(Segnato) GEORGIO LAURELO.

(Translation.)

Excellency, *Austrian Vice-Consulate, Beyrout, November* 8, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that M. de Steindl will report to your Excellency the news of the capture of St. Jean d'Acre, where, twenty-six hours after its occupation, a mine unfortunately exploded, which destroyed half the Castle, killed a hundred people, English and Turks, and wounded the Captain of the English frigate "Castor" severely, and General Sir C. Smith slightly.

The Ex-Governor of Beyrout, Mahmoud Bey, who, with the Mudir and other Egyptian officers, had fled from Acre, taking with them fourteen mule-loads of treasure, was stopped by the mountaineers, and taken back to Acre, together with his escort.

I have just received the news, that Ibrahim Pasha having recalled in all haste his troops from the frontier, about 8,000 Egyptians have evacuated Kulek Boghaz, Adana, Beilan, Antioch, &c., falling back on Aleppo, which must now be evacuated, abandoning their baggage, and putting to death such among the sick who were unable to follow them.

M. Steindl will inform your Excellency of the unusual vexations, and of the infamous and unpunished proceedings of the Constantinopolitan troops towards the Christian Rayahs and their clergy,—proceedings which, if not repressed, will have dreadful consequences.

I have the honour, &c.,
(Signed) GEORGE LAURELO.

No. 79.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 12.)

My Lord, *Therapia, November* 21, 1840.

I HAVE mentioned the propriety of relieving Syria from the blockade, and the Sublime Porte will, I believe, take the proper steps in that matter.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 80.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, December* 12, 1840.

I HAVE received your despatch of November 18; and I have to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government approve the arrangements which you have made respecting Mr. Wood's duties in Syria.

Her Majesty's Government have also received, with satisfaction, the intelligence contained in your despatch, of the recall of Izzet Pasha, who, by the violence of his temper, and by the ferocity of his character, was eminently unfit for the post to which he had been appointed in Syria.

I take this opportunity to state to your Excellency that, as the Syrians have been urged by British Authorities to take up arms for the Sultan, and to declare themselves in his favour, it is peculiarly incumbent on the British Government to omit no effort to induce the Porte to make such future arrangements for the administration of the Government of Syria, as may secure the Syrians from oppression, and render them contented and prosperous.

Her Majesty's Government are not sufficiently conversant with the internal arrangements of Turkish Administration, to be able to say what specific measures would be best adapted for this purpose; but they wish your Excellency to inform them what are the intentions of the Porte in this respect; and I have to instruct your Excellency to press upon the Turkish Government in the strongest manner, that it is essential for the honour of the Sultan, and for the future tranquillity of the Turkish Empire, that the arrangements to be made on this matter should afford full security and satisfaction to the Syrians.

No. 81.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 10.)

(Extract.) *Vienna, December* 2, 1840.

PRINCE METTERNICH is of opinion that the time is come to take into consideration the advice to be given to the Sultan with regard to the Government of Syria. He thinks the re-establishment of the former Pashalics, according to their ancient divisions, the best mode which the Porte can adopt, with the exception of the fortress of St. Jean d'Acre, with regard to which he suggests that it should be placed in an efficient state of defence, and be separated with its *rayon* from the Pashalic of Acre, the command of it being entrusted to a Governor named by the Porte, with a garrison to be furnished and relieved from Constantinople.

No. 82.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Beauvale.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, December* 18, 1840.

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 2nd instant, reporting the opinions entertained by Prince Metternich as to the nature of arrangements which it would be expedient to make for the future government of Syria, I have to state to your Excellency, that Her Majesty's Government are aware, that in order to form a correct opinion upon these matters, they ought to have a knowledge of many details with regard to which they are at present uninformed; but that it appears to them, as far as they have the means of judging, that the opinions expressed by Prince Metternich upon the points treated of in your Excellency's despatch, are sound and judicious.

No. 83.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 13.)

(Extract.) *Paris, December* 11, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatches to the 8th instant.

The inclosed "Moniteur" contains an account published by the French Government of the negotiation which preceded Mehemet Ali's acceptance of the conditions proposed to him by Commodore Napier.

No. 84.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, December* 15, 1840.

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 11th instant, I herewith transmit to your Excellency a copy of a letter from Commodore Napier to me, dated the 26th ultimo.

I also inclose for your Excellency's information, a copy of Commodore Napier's despatch to the Secretary of the Admiralty, transmitting copies of his correspondence with Boghos Bey.

No. 85.

Commodore Napier to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 12.)

My Lord, "*Medea,*" *Alexandria, November* 26, 1840.

I HAVE sent to the Admiralty copies of my correspondence with the Egyptian Government. I am not able to send the reply to my last letter, because it will not be ready till to-night, when everything will be signed. But I am just come from the Pasha and Boghos Bey, who have consented to the immediate evacuation of Syria. But as I have already kept the "Oriental" three days, I did not think it right to detain her longer. I hope I am right, and that I have done what I think you wish; and as I feel certain the Turkish Army, as it is, could not have followed up Ibrahim without cavalry, artillery, or commissariat, I thought it better to get them out of Syria by treaty. Had we attacked them at Zachlé, it would have been different; but they are retired on Damascus. A French steamer arrived here three days ago with a Negotiator, besides the one they had here; and they did all they could to prevent this. But six eighty-gun ships negotiate better than a steamer. I should have sent your Lordship copy of the papers, but I could not any longer detain the Indian mail. I shall, probably, send a steamer home with the Convention.

I have done what I think will meet the views of the Government. I know the responsibility I incur. But an officer ought not to be afraid of acting without instructions, when it is for the advantage of his country.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) CHARLES NAPIER.

No. 86.

Sir John Barrow to Lord Leveson.

My Lord, *Admiralty, December* 14, 1840.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Viscount Palmerston, copies of a letter from Commodore Napier, dated the 26th of last month, and of its several inclosures, containing the correspondence which has taken place between himself and the Egyptian Government.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN BARROW.

Inclosure 1 in No. 86.

Commodore Napier to R. More O'Ferrall, Esq.

"Medea" Steamer,
Sir, *Alexandria, November* 26, 1840.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing copies of a correspondence that has taken place between the Egyptian Government and myself. I have not been able to send the reply to my last letter, as I could not get it till late this evening; but I am this moment returned from the Pasha and Boghos Bey, who have consented to the immediate evacuation of Syria; and as the India mail has been already detained three days, I do not like to detain her another.

I hope their Lordships will approve of the steps I have taken to at once settle the Eastern Question.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) CHARLES NAPIER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 86.

Commodore Napier to Boghos Bey.

H.B.M. Ship "Powerful,"
Sir, *Off Alexandria, November* 22, 1840.

THIS will be delivered to your Excellency by Captain Maunsell, an old acquaintance of his Highness Mehemet Ali. I send him to request his Highness will consent to release, or exchange, the Emirs and Sheiks of Lebanon, who were sent to Alexandria last July by the authorities of Syria. The greater part of those unfortunate individuals were arrested only on suspicion of disaffection, at the instigation of the late Grand Prince, whose government of Lebanon was anything but just, or moderate, and who at last deserted Mehemet Ali.

The retaining those unhappy individuals in captivity can answer no good purpose at present: Lebanon is entirely free and armed; and come what may in other parts of Syria, the mountains never can again fall under the rule of Mehemet Ali.

His Highness is no doubt aware of the willingness of the Allies to secure to Mehemet Ali the hereditary government of Egypt.

Will his Highness permit an old sailor to suggest to him an easy

means of reconciliation to the Sultan and the other Great Powers of Europe.

Let his Highness frankly, freely, and unconditionally deliver up the Ottoman fleet and withdraw his troops from Syria; the miseries of war would then cease, and his Highness in his latter years would have ample and satisfactory occupation in cultivating the arts of peace, and probably laying a foundation for the restoration of the throne of the Ptolemies.

By what has taken place in Syria, his Highness must be aware what can be accomplished in a country where the inhabitants are disaffected to the Government. In one month, 6,000 Turks and a handful of marines, took Sidon, Beyrout; defeated the Egyptian troops in three actions; possessed themselves of 10,000 prisoners and deserters; and caused the evacuation of all the seaports, the passes of the Taurus and Mount Lebanon; and this in the face of an army of more than 30,000 men; and in three weeks more, Acre, the key of Syria, fell to the combined fleets, after a bombardment of three hours. Should his Highness persist in hostilities, will he permit me to ask if he is safe in Egypt? I am a great admirer of his Highness, and would much rather be his friend than enemy.

In the capacity of the former, I take the liberty of pointing out to his Highness, the little hope he can have of ever preserving Egypt, should he refuse to be reconciled to the Sultan.

Experience has shown that the Egyptian army in Syria are disaffected, and the whole of the country are in arms against them; and if Ibrahim Pasha is attacked by a larger and increasing Turkish force, he will probably be forced to lay down his arms. Let his Highness look to Egypt: the Turkish seamen are all disaffected; the Vice-Admiral and several of his officers abandoned him a few days ago, and are now in the squadron; the Syrian troops in Egypt wish to return to their country; the Egyptians are in arrears of pay, and are sighing for their homes. From 12 to 15,000 Egyptian soldiers now at Constantinople, are being clothed, paid, and organized, under the eyes of the Sultan; let his Highness reflect on his danger, should they be thrown into Egypt, with a promise of being disbanded, together with the rest of the army, on the overthrow of his Highness.

He may rely upon it, Egypt is not invulnerable; he may rely upon it, Alexandria itself may be made to share the fate of Acre; and his Highness, who has now an opportunity of founding a dynasty, may sink into a simple Pasha.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) CHARLES NAPIER,
Commodore.

Inclosure 3 in No. 86.

Boghos Bey to Commodore Napier.

M. le Commodore, *Alexandrie, le* 23 *Novembre*, 1840.

J'AI reçu avec beaucoup de plaisir la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'adresser par l'intermédiaire de mon ancien ami M. le Capitaine Maunsell, et je me suis empressé d'en mettre la traduction sous les yeux du Vice-Roi mon maître.

Son Altesse m'ordonne de vous faire connaître qu'elle est particulièrement sensible aux bons sentimens dont elle a trouvé l'expression dans votre lettre susdite datée le 22 courant.

Il me parait impossible, M. le Commodore, que vous ajoutiez foi aux rapports malveillans du Contre-Amiral; et votre honorable caractère m'est un sûr garanti du peu de crédit que doivent trouvèr auprès de vous les paroles d'un homme qui, lorsqu'il a déserté Constantinople, ne s'est pas fait faute de répandre sur la Sublime Porte les calomnies dont l'Egypte est aujourd'hui l'objet de sa part. A l'époque où les officiers de la flotte Ottomane obtinrent la faculté de quitter Alexandrie, ce même Contre-Amiral sollicita du Vice-Roi la permission de rester en Egypte.

En dernier lieu encore, il eut sans difficulté reçu de son Altesse l'autorisation de se retirer, mais il a préféré la désertion à une démarche franche et honorable, parcequ'il a cru voir dans la désertion un moyen de se rétablir. Il suffit de connaître la conduite de cet officier pour apprécier à leur juste valeur des propos que je ne crois pas même devoir réfuter.

Les ordres de son Altesse ont déjà prévenu vos intentions relativement à la mise en liberté des Chefs Druses. Depuis longtems, plusieurs de ces Chefs avaient dû quitter la Syrie et s'étaient fixés au Caire; à la nouvelle des derniers événemens ils sont venus de leur propre mouvement réclamer de son Altesse la permission de se rendre au milieu de leurs compatriotes, pour y agir dans l'intérêt de la cause Egyptienne, et il y a une dizaine de jours qu'ils ont pris la route de la Syrie. C'est à leur sollicitation que les Chefs Druses qui avaient été précédemment exilés en Nubie, ont également été autorisés à rentrer dans leurs foyers, et que l'ordre de leur retour a déjà été expédié. La réintégration de ces divers personnages dans leur patrie étant déjà pour ainsi dire un fait accompli, vos bonnes dispositions à leur égard se trouvent réalisés sans qu'il soit besoin de recourir à un échange.

Il était déjà venu à notre connaissance que l'intention des Grandes Puissances était de laisser à son Altesse le gouvernement héréditaire de l'Egypte, et sur ce point le Vice-Roi attend une communication officielle. Son Altesse n'est pas moins reconnaissante de la proposition contenue dans votre lettre, car elle y voit une manifestation personnelle de vos amicales et conciliantes dispositions. Dans aucun cas son Altesse n'a prétendu se mettre en opposition avec les volontés des Grandes Puissances de l'Europe. Vous n'ignorez pas, M. le Commodore, qu'elle s'était déjà soumise aux dispositions du Traité qui lui confère héréditairement l'administration de l'Egypte. Son Altesse s'était seulement réservé de solliciter de la Sublime Porte la faculté de joindre à cette première concession le gouvernement viager de la Syrie, et cela parceque le Vice-Roi avait la conviction que, la Syrie entre ses mains pouvait encore offrir de grandes ressources à l'Empire Ottoman. Au lieu de répondre à cette demande on en est venu à des hostilités. Vous jugerez dans votre impartialité, M. le Commodore, si les torts ont été du côté du Vice-Roi. Son Altesse a la persuasion du contraire, et reste convaincue que les Grandes Puissances lui rendront justice.

Pour ce qui concerne la restitution de la flotte Ottomane et l'évacuation de la Syrie, je m'empresse de répondre sur ces deux points.—Il n'a jamais été dans les intentions de son Altesse de retenir la flotte de son souverain, et elle n'a cessé de s'exprimer dans ce sens du jour même que les circonstances ont amené l'escadre du Grand Seigneur à Alexandrie.

Il y a plus; lorsque Samy Bey a été envoyé en mission auprès de la Sublime Porte, il a offert au nom de son Altesse, la restitution de la flotte, qui était sur le point de mettre à la voile pour retourner à Constantinople, lorsque les hostilités commencées en Syrie sont venues ajourner l'exécution des ordres du Vice-Roi. Quant à l'évacuation de la Syrie, son Altesse avait cru être en droit d'attendre de nouveaux ordres de la Sublime Porte. Vous savez, M. le Commodore, comment il a été répondu à la demande du Vice-Roi, qui, dès-lors, a cru devoir recourir à la médiation officieuse de la France, manifestant ainsi son intention d'entrer dans les voies de conciliation, et son désir de voir mettre un terme à un état de choses que son Altesse a la conscience de n'avoir pas provoqué.

Pour le moment, les relations directes entre le Vice-Roi et le Général-en-chef de l'armée Egyptienne en Syrie sont suspendues par suite de l'agitation qui règne dans ce pays; c'est dans le but seul de faire cesser les désordres et pour assurer les voies de correspondance entre l'armée et l'Egypte, que le Vice-Roi vient de diriger sur la frontière un corps de troupes dont la mission est le rétablissement des communications.

J'espère, M. le Commodore, que vous serez satisfait des explications que le Vice-Roi m'a ordonné de vous transmettre, et que vous reconnaîtrez dans l'empressement que j'ai mis à répondre avec franchise à votre bienveillante communication, une nouvelle preuve des dispositions pacifiques et conciliantes qui n'ont jamais cessé d'animer le Vice-Roi mon maître.

Je saisis, etc.,

(Signé) BOGHOS JOUSSOUF.

(Translation.)

M. le Commodore, *Alexandria, November* 23, 1840.

I HAVE received with much pleasure the letter which you have done me the honour to address to me, through my old friend Captain Maunsell, and I have lost no time in laying a translation of it before the Viceroy my master.

His Highness commands me to acquaint you, that he is particularly sensible of the good feelings which are expressed in your above-mentioned letter of the 22nd instant.

It seems to me impossible, M. le Commodore, that you should give credit to the malevolent reports of the Rear-Admiral: and your honourable character is a certain guarantee of the little credit which you will give to the words of a man, who, when he deserted from Constantinople, did not hesitate to shower upon the Sublime Porte the calumnies of which Egypt is now the object on his part. At the time when the officers of the Ottoman fleet got leave to quit Alexandria, this same Rear-Admiral solicited the Viceroy's permission to remain in Egypt.

Again, lately, he might without difficulty have received from his Highness permission to retire, but he preferred desertion to a frank and honourable proceeding, because he thought that he saw in desertion a means of re-establishing himself. It is enough to be aware of the conduct of this officer, to appreciate at their true value assertions which I do not even think I need refute.

His Highness's orders have already anticipated your intentions, with regard to setting the Druse Chieftains at liberty. Some time ago several of these Chieftains had quitted Syria and had fixed themselves at Cairo; at the news of the late events they came, of their own accord, to demand his Highness's permission to return among their countrymen, there to act in the interest of the Egyptian cause, and ten days ago they took the road for Syria. It is at their request that the Druse Chieftains, who had formerly been banished to Nubia, have been authorized to return to their homes, and that the order for their return has already been sent. The restoration of these different personages to their country being thus, as it may be said, a thing already done, your good intentions with regard to them are carried into effect, without its being necessary to have recourse to an exchange.

It had already come to our knowledge that the intention of the Great Powers was to leave the hereditary government of Egypt to his Highness, and the Viceroy awaits an official communication upon this point. His Highness is not the less grateful for the proposal contained in your letter, for he sees therein a personal manifestation of your friendly and concili atory sentiments. In no case has his Highness intended to place himself in opposition to the will of the Great Powers of Europe. You are not ignorant, M. le Commodore, that he had already submitted to the stipulations of the Treaty which grants to him the hereditary administration of Egypt. His Highness had only reserved to himself the power of soliciting from the Sublime Porte the favour of joining the government of Syria for life to this first concession; and this because the Viceroy was convinced that Syria in his hands might still furnish great resources to the Ottoman Empire. Instead of making any answer to this request, hostilities have been had recourse to. You will judge impartially, M. le Commodore, whether the faults have been on the side of the Viceroy. His Highness is persuaded of the contrary, and remains convinced that the Great Powers will do him justice.

With regard to the restoration of the Ottoman fleet, and the evacuation of Syria, I hasten to reply on these two points. It has never entered into his Highness's intentions to keep the fleet of his Sovereign, and he has not ceased to express himself in this sense from the very day that circumstances brought the fleet of the Grand Signor to Alexandria.

Moreover, when Sami Bey was sent on a mission to the Sublime Porte, he offered, in the name of his Highness, the restitution of the fleet, which was on the point of putting to sea to return to Constantinople

when the hostilities begun in Syria postponed the execution of the orders of the Viceroy. With regard to the evacuation of Syria, his Highness thought himself justified in waiting for fresh orders from the Sublime Porte. You are aware, M. le Commodore, of the manner in which the request of the Viceroy was replied to, who thereupon thought it necessary to have recourse to the unofficial mediation of France, manifesting thereby his intention of entering upon the path of conciliation, and his desire to see an end put to a state of things, which his Highness is conscious he did not give occasion for.

The direct communications between the Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief of the Egyptian army in Syria are for the moment suspended, in consequence of the agitation which exists in that country. It is with the sole object of putting a stop to the disorders, and of ensuring the means of correspondence between the army and Egypt, that the Viceroy has directed a body of troops to march upon the frontier, the object of whose mission is to re-establish the communications.

I hope, M. le Commodore, that you will be satisfied with the explanations which the Viceroy has ordered me to transmit to you, and that you will perceive, in the eagerness which I have shown to reply with frankness to your friendly communication, a fresh proof of the pacific and conciliatory feelings which have never ceased to animate the Viceroy, my master.

I avail myself, &c.,

(Signed) BOGHOS JOUSSOUF.

Inclosure 4 in No. 86.

Commodore Napier to Boghos Bey.

H.B.M. Ship "Powerful,"

Sir, *Off Alexandria, November* 24, 1840.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter, and am happy to find that the Emirs and Sheiks of Lebanon have been released, and if they are not all gone, I shall be glad to send them to Beyrout by sea.

I have the honour of inclosing a copy of Lord Palmerston's letter* to Lord Ponsonby, by which your Excellency will observe, that the desire of the Allied Powers is to reinstate his Highness in the hereditary government of Egypt, provided he at once evacuates Syria, and gives up the Ottoman fleet.

It is of the utmost importance that my Government should be informed, by the packet about to leave Alexandria, of the intention of his Highness, in a clear and distinct manner. I have therefore to request your Excellency will at once inform me whether or not it is his Highness's intention to give immediate orders for the surrendering the Ottoman fleet, and the evacuation of Syria? If his Highness consults his own interests he will not hesitate a moment.

I shall give every assistance with the squadron, to prepare the Turkish fleet, and will permit any number of transports to proceed to Beyrout or Acre, to embark the army, who have now retired on Damascus, the intelligence of which I have this moment received from the Commander-in-chief.

I beg you will inform his Highness that if he does not at once decide, should any expedition be sent from Constantinople, I have no discretionary power, and must act against him according to the best of my abilities.

I observe with regret, by your letter, that more troops have already been sent into Syria, which I fear will be interpreted at Constantinople, into a determination of persisting in hostilities.

To avoid all unnecessary delay, I am now on board the steam boat, and shall be most happy to pay my respects to his Highness, should he wish to see me, and offer him any guarantee in my power. I beg, &c.,

(Signed) C. NAPIER.

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* October 15, 1840.

Inclosure 5 in No. 86.

Commodore Napier to Boghos Bey.

H.B.M. Ship, "Medea,"
Sir, *Alexandria, November* 25, 1840.

I BEG leave to inclose the letter of Lord Palmerston to Lord Ponsonby, which was by mistake not sent with my letter to your Excellency, yesterday.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) CHARLES NAPIER.

Inclosure 6 in No. 86.

Boghos Bey to Commodore Napier.

M. le Commodore. *Alexandrie, le* 24 *Novembre,* 1840.

J'AI mis sous les yeux du Vice-Roi mon maître la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire sous la date de ce jour.

Les Chefs Druses qui résidaient au Caire sont partis par terre pour la Syrie, ainsi que j'ai déjà eu l'honneur de vous dire. Il n'est pas donc possible à son Altesse de profiter des moyens de transport que vous mettez à leur disposition pour hâter leur retour dans leur patrie.

La copie de la lettre de son Excellence Lord Palmerston à Lord Ponsonby n'était pas jointe à votre dépêche, ainsi que vous me l'annoncez.

Je crois cependant, M. le Commodore, avoir connaissance du contenu de cette lettre, et c'est sur cela même que je m'appuie pour considérer comme un fait non douteux le consentement de son Altesse à la restitution de la flotte Ottomane et à l'évacuation de la Syrie; aussi puis-je vous certifier au nom du Vice-Roi, que l'escadre sera rendue et la Syrie évacuée aussitôt que son Altesse aura reçu la garantie officielle et positive des avantages qui lui sont promis en retour de ses concessions.

D'un autre côté, M. le Commodore, vous n'ignorez pas que les dépêches venues de France par le dernier bateau à vapeur nous ont fait connaître que le Gouvernement Français étant, sur la demande du Vice-Roi, entré en négociation avec les Quatre Puissances, on s'attendait à ce qu'un arrangement définitif aurait lieu sous peu de jours. Dans cette conjoncture, ne pensez-vous pas, M. le Commodore, qu'il y aurait convenance à ne pas anticiper sur la décision que vont prendre les Grandes Puissances agissant de concert avec la Sublime Porte,—décision à laquelle le Vice-Roi s'engage de la manière la plus formelle à se soumettre sans délai.

Vous semblez craindre que l'envoi d'un corps de troupes sur les frontières de Syrie ne soit considéré à Constantinople comme une preuve de l'intention qu'aurait son Altesse de prolonger les hostilités dans ce pays; c'est pour vous rassurer complètement sur ce point que je vous réitère l'assurance positive que la colonne qui a été dirigée sur El-Arish en dernier lieu, n'a pas d'autre objet, d'autre mission, que d'assurer les voies de communication.

Je vous réitère, etc.,
(Signé) BOGHOS JOUSSOUF.

(Translation.)

M. le Commodore, *Alexandria, November* 24, 1840.

I HAVE laid before the Viceroy, my master, the letter which you have this day done me the honour to address to me.

The Druse Chieftains who were residing at Cairo have departed for Syria by land, as I have already had the honour to state to you. It is not, therefore, in His Highness's power to avail himself of the means of

transport which you place at their disposal to accelerate their return to their country.

The copy of the letter from Lord Palmerston to Lord Ponsonby was not, as you state, inclosed in your despatch.

I believe however, M. le Commodore, that I am aware of the contents of that letter, and it is upon them that I rely in considering as a fact not to be doubted, the consent of his Highness to restore the Ottoman fleet and to evacuate Syria; and I can assure you in the name of the Viceroy, that the fleet shall be restored and Syria evacuated as soon as his Highness shall have received the official and positive guarantee of the advantages which are promised him in return for these concessions.

On another hand, you are not ignorant, M. le Commodore, that the despatches received from France by the last steam-boat have apprised us that the French Government, having entered into negotiation with the Four Powers at the request of the Viceroy, a definitive arrangement was expected to take place in a few days. In this posture of affairs do not you think, M. le Commodore, that it would be fitting not to anticipate the decision which the Great Powers, acting in concert with the Sublime Porte, are about to take?—a decision which the Viceroy engages in the most formal manner to submit to without delay.

You seem to fear that the sending of a body of troops upon the frontiers of Syria might be considered at Constantinople as a proof of the intention of his Highness to prolong hostilities in that country; it is in order to put you completely at ease upon this point that I repeat to you the positive assurance, that the column which has recently been sent towards El-Arish has no other object, no other destination, than to secure the means of communication.

I repeat, &c.,
(Signed) BOGHOS JOUSSOUF.

Inclosure 7 in No. 86.

Commodore Napier to Boghos Bey.

H. M. steam ship "Medea,"
Sir, *Alexandria, November* 25, 1840.

I WISH your Excellency to acquaint me whether in informing me that the Druse Chiefs had been sent back to Lebanon, your Excellency means that all the Chiefs that were removed from Syria last July, have returned to their homes.

I observed to your Excellency in my letter of yesterday, that I had no direction to suspend hostilities by sea, unless his Highness would surrender the fleet, and give immediate orders for the evacuation of Syria, much less can I insure the discontinuance of military operations; on the contrary, I feel perfectly satisfied that operations will be carried on, until orders are given for its complete evacuation.

I am perfectly ignorant of the despatches brought by the last French steamer, nor have I any knowledge that the French Government has entered into negotiation with the Allied Powers.

I only know that the Allied Powers have recommended to the Porte, to reinstate Mehemet Ali in the Government of Egypt, and render it hereditary in his family; and I know that nothing could afford so much pleasure to the British Government, as my writing by this packet to say that orders have been given for the evacuation of Syria, and the surrender of the fleet. I can enter into his Highness's feelings in hesitating to do this, until he officially receives the guarantee of the Allied Powers; but at the same time I must do my duty.

I am most anxious to avoid any further effusion of blood;—war and sickness have already done enough.

Therefore, if his Highness will give immediate orders for the evacuation of Syria, and send transports to receive the troops, and get the fleet ready for sea, I will not insist on their departure for Constantinople, until

the Pasha is guaranteed in the hereditary government of Egypt, and on those conditions I will suspend hostilities.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) CHARLES NAPIER,
Commodore.

Inclosure 8 in No. 86.

Boghos Bey to Commodore Napier.

M. le Commodore, *Alexandrie, le* 25 *Novembre*, 1840.

JE viens de recevoir la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'adresser en date de ce jour, et je me suis empressé de la mettre sous les yeux du Vice-Roi mon maître. Conformément à ses ordres, je réponds aux différens paragraphes qu'elle renferme.

En ce qui touche d'abord les Chefs Druses, je vous répète, M. le Commodore, que ceux d'entr'eux qui habitent le Caire sont partis par terre pour la Syrie; quant à ceux qui se trouvent encore en Nubie, l'ordre pour assurer leur retour a déjà été expédié, ainsi que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous l'écrire, et je vous réitère l'assurance qu'au moment de leur arrivée en Egypte ils seront entièrement libres de se rendre dans leur patrie.

En ce qui concerne la flotte Ottomane, qui doit être mise en état de faire voile aussitôt que la décision des Puissances lui sera officiellement notifiée, son Altesse voit avec plaisir que vous adhérez à ses sentimens.

Son Altesse, partageant avec sincérité le désir que vous émettez d'arrêter l'effusion de sang, s'est décidée à mettre fin aux hostilités; mais comme vous n'ignorez pas que le transport par mer d'une armée qui entraîne une suite considérable, en matériel, en chevaux et équipages, offre de grandes difficultés, et qu'il est surtout urgent de mettre un terme aux malheurs de la guerre, le Vice-Roi est prêt à ordonner à son fils Ibrahim Pacha de concentrer ses troupes pour se replier avec elles sur l'Egypte,—disposition qui sera transmise au Général-en-chef par un officier Egyptien accompagné, si vous le jugez convenable, par un officier Anglais accrédité par vous.

Ibrahim Pacha se trouvera par ce moyen en mesure d'évacuer complètement la Syrie au moment que la décision des Puissances sera officiellement connue.

J'ai l'honneur, etc.,
(Signé) BOGHOS JOUSSOUF.

(Translation.)

M le Commodore, *Alexandria, November* 25, 1840

I HAVE just received the letter which you have this day done me the honour to address to me, and I have hastened to lay it before the Viceroy my master. Agreeably to his orders, I reply to the different paragraphs contained in it.

In the first place, with regard to the Druse Chieftains, I repeat to you, M. le Commodore, that those among them who live at Cairo, have set out for Syria by land; with regard to those who are still in Nubia, the order to secure their return has already been forwarded, as I had the honour to write to you, and I repeat to you the assurance that the moment they arrive in Egypt, they will be perfectly free to proceed to their own country.

With regard to the Ottoman fleet, which is to be put into a fit condition for sailing, as soon as the decision of the Powers shall have been officially notified to the Viceroy, his Highness sees with pleasure that you concur in his sentiments.

His Highness, sincerely participating in the wish which you express to put a stop to the shedding of blood, has decided to put an end to hostilities; but as you are not ignorant that the transport by sea of an army which has a large quantity of stores, horses, and camp equipage, presents

great difficulties, and that it is above all important to put an end to the calamites of war, the Viceroy is ready to order his son Ibrahim Pasha to concentrate his troops in order to fall back with them upon Egypt,—an order which shall be transmitted to the Commander-in-Chief by an Egyptian officer, accompanied, if you think fit, by an English officer accredited by you.

By this means, Ibrahim Pasha will be enabled completely to evacuate Syria the moment the decision of the Powers shall be officially known.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) BOGHOS JOUSSOUF.

Inclosure 9 in No. 86.

Commodore Napier to Boghos Bey.

H. M. steam ship "Medea,"
Sir, *Alexandria, November* 26, 1840.

IN the last paragraph of your letter of yesterday's date, you say that the Pasha will give orders to concentrate the Egyptian army in Syria, in order that they may evacuate the country, when the decision of the Powers is officially known.

I beg to observe to your Excellency that the Egyptian troops are already concentrated, and my demand is, that the order should be given for the *immediate* evacuation; and I shall place a steamer at your Excellency's disposal to convey the officer whom the Pasha sends, together with one I shall appoint, to Beyrout, with the Pasha's despatches to his son Ibrahim Pasha.

Nothing short of this will either meet the Commander-in-chief's approbation, or put an end to hostilities.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) CHARLES NAPIER,
Commodore.

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* Inclosure 10 in No. 86.

Boghos Bey to Commodore Napier.

M. le Commodore, *Alexandrie, le* 26 *Novembre*, 1840.

JE réponds à la dernière lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'adresser, et que j'ai soumise au Vice-Roi mon maître.

Son Altesse consent à réarmer la flotte de la Sublime Porte, à l'approvisionner, en un mot, à la mettre en état de faire voile au premier moment pour Constantinople, sous la condition expresse, et que vous-même avez posée, que la dite escadre restera dans notre port jusqu'à la notification officielle des Puissances qui assure à son Altesse le gouvernement héréditaire de l'Egypte.

En outre, Monsieur, sur la demande formelle que vous en avez faite au Vice-Roi, son Altesse enverra à Beyrouth, et cela au plus prochain jour, un officier de son palais (déjà nommé) porteur des ordres nécessaires à l'évacuation de la Syrie par Ibrahim Pacha son fils et toute son armée.

Cet envoyé prendra passage à bord du bateau à vapeur que vous avez mis à la disposition de son Altesse, et sera accompagné par un officier Anglais jusqu'à destination et retour.

Ceci est écrit avec une vive gratitude de vos soins et de votre délicatesse dans la solution de cet épineux différend. Et au nom de son Altesse,

Je suis, etc.,
(Signé) BOGHOS JOUSSOUF.

* The copy of this letter is printed from the "Journal des Débats," of the 15th of December, 1840, but Commodore Napier has stated that he never received the original letter.

(Translation.)

M. le Commodore, *Alexandria, November* 26, 1840.

I REPLY to the last letter which you have done me the honour to address to me, and which I have laid before the Viceroy my master.

His Highness consents to re-equip the fleet of the Sublime Porte, to victual it, in a word to put it in a state to sail at a moment's notice for Constantinople, on the express condition,—a condition which you yourself have laid down,—that the said fleet shall remain in our port until the official notification of the Powers which shall guarantee the hereditary government of Egypt to his Highness.

Besides this, on the formal demand which you have made to the Viceroy thereupon, his Highness will send to Beyrout, and that forthwith, an officer of his household, (already appointed,) who will be the bearer of the necessary orders for the evacuation of Syria by his son Ibrahim Pasha and his whole army.

This Envoy will embark on board the steamer which you have placed at his Highness's disposal, and will be accompanied by an English officer, on his way there, and back again.

This is written with lively gratitude for the care and the delicacy you have shown in the solution of this difficult question. And in the name of his Highness,

I am, &c.,
(Signed) BOGHOS JOUSSOUF.

No. 87.

Sir John Barrow to Lord Leveson.

My Lord, *Admiralty, December* 15, 1840.

WITH reference to my letter to your Lordship of the 14th instant, transmitting copies of the correspondence which had taken place between Commodore Sir Charles Napier and the Egyptian Government, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Viscount Palmerston, copies of a further letter from the Commodore and its inclosures, containing a copy of the Convention, signed by himself and the Minister of Mehemet Ali.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN BARROW.

Inclosure 1 in No. 87.

Commodore Napier to R. More O'Ferrall, Esq.

Her Majesty's Steam-vessel "Medea,"
Sir, *Alexandria, November* 28, 1840.

IN my letter by the "Oriental," I sent the copies of the correspondence that has taken place between the Egyptian Government and myself. I also acquainted you that the terms had been agreed to.

I have now the honour of inclosing a copy of the Convention I have signed, which I trust will meet their Lordships' approbation. The whole of the correspondence has been also sent to the Commander-in-Chief; and the Egyptian officer, with the order to Ibrahim Pasha, has also proceeded to join him.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) CHARLES NAPIER,
Commodore.

P.S.—I beg to observe that I am much indebted to the decision of Captain Maunsell of the "Rodney," in opening a direct communication with the Pasha. It had been usual to send in letters by the French boat, but Captain Maunsell very properly landed at the palace, and sent right up to the Pasha at once.

Inclosure 2 in No. 87.

CONVENTION between Commodore Napier, commanding Her Britannic Majesty's Naval Forces before Alexandria, on the one part, and his Excellency Boghos Joussouf Bey, specially authorized by his Highness the Viceroy of Egypt, on the other part; signed at Alexandria, the 27th November, 1840.

ART. I.

Le Commodore Napier, en sa qualité susdite, ayant porté à la connaissance de son Altesse Méhémet Ali, que les Puissances Alliées avaient recommandé à la Sublime Porte de le réintégrer dans le gouvernement héréditaire de l'Egypte, et son Altesse voyant dans cette communication une circonstance favorable pour mettre un terme aux calamités de la guerre, elle s'engage à ordonner à son fils Ibrahim Pacha de procéder à l'évacuation immédiate de la Syrie. Son Altesse s'engage, en outre, à restituer la flotte Ottomane aussitôt qu'elle aura reçu la notification officielle que la Sublime Porte lui accorde le gouvernement héréditaire de l'Egypte, laquelle concession est et demeure garantie par les Puissances.

ART. II.

Le Commodore Napier mettra à la disposition du Gouvernement Egyptien un bateau à vapeur pour conduire en Syrie l'officier désigné par son Altesse pour porter au Général-en-chef de l'armée Egyptienne l'ordre d'évacuer la Syrie. Le Commandant-en-chef des forces Britanniques, Sir R. Stopford, nommera de son côté un officier pour veiller à l'exécution de cette mesure.

ART. III.

En considération de ce qui précède, le Commodore Napier s'engage à suspendre de la part des forces Britanniques les hostilités contre Alexandrie ou toute autre portion du territoire Egyptien. Il autorisera en même temps la libre navigation des bâtimens destinés au transport des blessés, des invalides ou de toute autre portion de l'armée Egyptienne, que le Gouvernement de l'Egypte désirerait faire rentrer dans ce pays par la voie de mer.

ART. IV.

Il est bien entendu que l'armée Egyptienne aura la faculté de se retirer de la Syrie avec son artillerie, ses armes, ses chevaux, munitions, bagages, et en général tout ce qui constitue le matériel de l'armée.

Fait à double, dont un original pour chaque Partie Contractante.

(Signé) CH. NAPIER, *Commodore.*
BOGHOS JOUSSOUF.

(Translation.)

ART. I.

COMMODORE NAPIER, in his above-mentioned capacity, having brought to the knowledge of his Highness Mehemet Ali, that the Allied Powers had recommended the Sublime Porte to reinstate him in the hereditary government of Egypt, and his Highness seeing in this communication a favourable occasion for putting an end to the calamities of war, he engages to order his son Ibrahim Pasha to proceed immediately to

the evacuation of Syria. His Highness engages, moreover, to restore the Ottoman fleet, as soon as he shall have received the official notification that the Sublime Porte grants to him the hereditary government of Egypt, which concession is, and remains, guaranteed by the Powers.

ART. II.

Commodore Napier will place a steamer at the disposal of the Egyptian Government, which will convey to Syria the officer charged by his Highness to carry to the Commander-in-Chief of the Egyptian army the order to evacuate Syria. The Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces, Sir Robert Stopford, will on his side appoint an officer to watch over the execution of this measure.

ART. III.

In consideration of what precedes, Commodore Napier engages to suspend hostilities on the part of the British forces against Alexandria, or any other portion of the Egyptian territory. He will, at the same time, authorize the free passage of the vessels appointed for the transport of the wounded, the invalids, or of any other portion of the Egyptian Army, which the Government of Egypt might wish to return to that country by sea.

ART. IV.

It is well understood that the Egyptian Army shall have the liberty of retiring from Syria with its artillery, arms, horses, ammunition, baggage, and in general everything that constitutes the stores of an army.

Done in duplicate, each Contracting Party to have an original.

(Signed) CH. NAPIER, *Commodore.*
BOGHOS JOUSSOUF.

Inclosure 3 in No. 87.

Commodore Napier to Boghos Bey.

Sir, *H.M.S. "Medea," November* 27, 1840.

IN the Convention entered into by your Excellency and myself, Mehemet Ali is styled his Highness the Viceroy of Egypt. As this does not alter the spirit of the Convention, I did not hesitate to sign it, but you must clearly understand that I cannot acknowledge that title until Mehemet Ali is restored by the Porte.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) CHARLES NAPIER,
Commodore.

No. 88.

Mr. Bloomfield to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 15.)

(Extract.) *St. Petersburgh, December* 1, 1840.

ACCOUNTS of the occupation of St. Jean d'Acre were received by Count Nesselrode on the 23rd ultimo. His Excellency immediately informed me of this glorious success, and read to me on the following day his reports from the Levant.

His congratulations on the fresh laurels gained by the British Navy were most enthusiastic; and his Excellency assured me that the energy and promptitude with which the operations of the Allied Forces had been conducted had given the highest satisfaction to the Emperor. This language was echoed by all

the Court for several days, and the Imperial Government are sincerely rejoiced at the favourable turn which the Eastern Question is assuming.

The bombardment of St. Jean d'Acre was announced on Tuesday last in the "Journal de St. Pétersbourg;" and your Lordship may judge, from the inclosed extract, of the impression received at Court, and of the feelings on this subject, which the Government wished to convey.

Count Nesselrode has informed me that he despatches M. de Berg, Secretary to the Russian Embassy in London, to-night, who is the bearer of the second class of the order of St. George, which the Emperor forwards for Admiral Sir Robert Stopford, as a proof of His Imperial Majesty's satisfaction with the manner in which he has conducted the operations confided to him, trusting that Her Majesty will be graciously pleased to permit him to wear it.

The third class of the same distinguished order is forwarded for Captain Napier, whose conduct and gallantry have excited the greatest admiration in this country.

His Imperial Majesty has sent the Order of St. Andrew to the Archduke Frederick.

Inclosure in No. 88.

Extract from the "St. Petersburgh Journal," respecting the capture of St. Jean d'Acre.

POST-SCRIPTUM.

PRISE DE SAINT JEAN D'ACRE.

UNE estafette arrivée dans la soirée de Constantinople a apporté des dépêches de cette capitale du 11 Novembre, nouveau style, et de Beyrouth, du 6 Novembre. On venait d'y recevoir l'importante nouvelle de la prise de Saint Jean d'Acre, qui a eu lieu le 4 Novembre, après un bombardement de douze heures, pendant lequel quarante mille projectiles ont été lancés dans la forteresse. L'explosion d'un magasin à poudre ayant fait éprouver des pertes considérables à la garnison, qui consistait en 6,500 hommes de troupes Egyptiennes, leurs débris ont évacué la place et se sont sauvés dans la direction de Jaffa, poursuivis par les Arabes de Naplouse, qui venaient de prendre à leur tour les armes en faveur du Sultan. L'Archiduc Frédéric d'Autriche a pris une grande part à ce beau fait d'armes. Son Altesse Impériale a le premier planté le drapeau du Sultan sur les murs de Saint Jean d'Acre.

(Translation.)

POSTSCRIPT.

CAPTURE OF ST. JEAN D'ACRE.

AN Estafette which arrived in the evening from Constantinople has brought despatches from that capital, of the 11th of November, New Style, and from Beyrout of the 6th of November. They had just received there the important news of the capture of St. Jean d'Acre, which took place on the 4th of November, after a bombardment of twelve hours, during which 40,000 projectiles were thrown into the fortress. The explosion of a powder magazine having caused considerable loss to the garrison, which consisted of 6,500 Egyptian troops, the remainder of them evacuated the place and fled towards Jaffa, pursued by the Arabs of Naplouse, who have taken up arms in their turn in favour of the Sultan. The Archduke Frederic of Austria has taken a distinguished part in this brilliant military action. His Imperial Highness was the first to plant the standard of the Sultan on the walls of St. Jean d'Acre.

No. 89.

Mr. Bloomfield to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received December* 15.)

(Extract.) *St. Petersburgh, December* 1, 1840.

COUNT NESSELRODE has received despatches from London and Constantinople to the 17th ultimo.

I called on his Excellency yesterday, and he allowed me to read Baron Brunnow's last reports, giving a detailed account of the late meeting of the Plenipotentiaries, and inclosing your Lordship's letters to the Lords of the Admiralty of the 14th ultimo.

Count Nesselrode said that he entirely approved of the plan, suggested by Baron Brunnow, of making a direct communication at Alexandria, through one of the officers of Her Majesty's Fleet, and that in consequence of our success at St. Jean d'Acre, and the instructions which he was informed were to be sent by M. Guizot to M. Cochelet, he hoped Mehemet Ali would see the folly of attempting to offer further resistance to the fulfilment of the Convention of July, and that he would thus facilitate the termination of the question, by throwing himself on the mediation of the Allies with the Porte.

Count Nesselrode told me that he had no fresh instructions to send to London on the subject, but that he should convey the Emperor's entire approbation to Baron Brunnow of his conduct and language, and express his confidence in the wisdom of Her Majesty's Government to adopt from time to time any measures which may become advisable.

No. 90.

Count Nesselrode to Baron Brunnow.—(*Communicated by Baron Brunnow, December* 15.)

M. le Baron. *St. Pétersbourg, le* $\frac{19 \text{ Novembre}}{1 \text{ Décembre}}$, 1840.

LE Secrétaire d'Ambassade de Berg, retournant aujourd'hui à son poste à Londres, je profite de son départ, pour accuser à votre Excellence la réception de ses rapports du $\frac{5}{17}$ Novembre. Ils ont été immédiatement soumis à Sa Majesté l'Empereur et ont mérité sa plus complète approbation. Notre auguste Maître a particulièrement honoré de son suffrage la résolution adoptée à Londres, de faire déclarer à Méhémet Ali par l'Amiral Stopford, que s'il se soumet au Sultan et s'engage à retirer ses troupes d'Adana, de la Syrie entière, de l'Arabie et de Candie, et s'il restitue la flotte Ottomane, en ce cas les Quatre Puissances useront de leur influence à Constantinople, pour engager la Porte à le relever de sa déchéance et à l'installer de nouveau dans le Pachalic d'Egypte. Cette combinaison dont votre Excellence a concerté le plan avec Lord Palmerston, lève toutes les difficultés, et tend à hâter la solution finale de la crise actuelle par un arrangement honorable et conforme aux engagemens que nous avons pris. Les considérations développées dans le mémorandum rédigé pour l'exposition de ce plan, les instructions à l'Amiral Stopford qui y sont annexées, l'ordre qui lui a été intimé de ne suspendre en rien les hostilités pendant que la sommation sera faite à Alexandrie, les recommandations particulières données à l'officier de marine chargé de porter le message des Puissances à Méhémet Ali, toutes ces dispositions, M. le Baron, ont été approuvées sans réserve par Sa Majesté l'Empereur.

Recevez, &c.,
(Signé) NESSELRODE.

(Translation.)

M. le Baron, *St. Petersburgh,* $\frac{19 \text{ Nov.}}{1 \text{ Dec.}}$, 1840.

THE Secretary of Embassy de Berg, being about to return to his post in London, I avail myself of his departure to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's reports of the $\frac{5}{17}$th of November. They were immediately submitted to His Majesty the Emperor, and merited his fullest approbation. Our

august Master particularly honoured with his approbation the resolution adopted in London, that it should be declared to Mehemet Ali by Admiral Stopford, that if he submits to the Sultan and engages to withdraw his troops from Adana, from the whole of Syria, from Arabia, and from Candia, and if he restores the Ottoman fleet, in that case the Four Powers will use their influence at Constantinople to induce the Porte to relieve him from his deprivation and to reinstate him in the Pashalic of Egypt. This plan which your Excellency concerted with Lord Palmerston, removes every difficulty, and tends to hasten the final solution of the present crisis by an arrangement honourable and conformable to the engagements which we have entered into. The considerations set forth in the Memorandum drawn up in explanation of this plan, the instructions to Admiral Stopford which are annexed thereto, the orders which have been given to him not at all to suspend hostilities while the summons is being made at Alexandria, the private instructions given to the naval officer charged to convey the message of the Powers to Mehemet Ali, all these arrangements, M. le Baron, are approved without exception by His Majesty the Emperor.

Accept &c.,
(Signed) NESSELRODE.

No. 91.

Count Nesselrode to Baron Brunnow.—(Communicated by Baron Brunnow, December 15.)

Monsieur le Baron, *St. Pétersbourg, le* $\frac{19\ \text{Nov.}}{1\ \text{Déc.}}$ 1840.

A LA première nouvelle que nous avons reçue ici de la prise de St. Jean d'Acre, je me suis immédiatement empressé d'informer votre Excellence de la vive satisfaction avec laquelle l'Empereur avait accueilli cet événement, où Sa Majesté s'était plue à reconnaître le fruit de la marche active et persévérante qu'a suivie le Ministère Anglais depuis la conclusion du Traité de Londres. Indépendamment des sentimens qu'à cette occasion, M. le Baron, vous avez déjà été chargé d'exprimer au Principal Secrétaire d'Etat, notre auguste Maître a senti encore le besoin de féliciter lui-même la Reine d'un résultat si glorieux pour la marine Britannique, si décisif pour le succès final de la cause que l'Angleterre et la Russie sont appelées à soutenir ensemble. Tel est le but de la lettre ci-jointe, en original et en copie, que l'Empereur adresse à son auguste Amie et Alliée. Désirant par la même occasion lui témoigner toute son estime pour la belle conduite qu'ont tenue l'Amiral Stopford et le Commodore Napier, l'Empereur met pour eux à sa disposition la Croix de St. Georges de la seconde et de la troisième classe. Veuillez, M. le Baron, en remettre à Lord Palmerston les insignes également ci-annexées, en le priant de faire parvenir à sa haute destination la lettre de Cabinet qui les accompagne. Le Ministère Anglais verra, nous n'en doutons pas, dans ce juste hommage rendu à la bravoure des deux marins, une nouvelle preuve de la part désintéressée que nous prenons à la gloire de nos Alliés, et de la sincérité de notre zèle pour le triomphe de notre commune politique.

Recevez, &c.,
(Signé) NESSELRODE.

(Translation.)

M. le Baron, *St. Petersburg,* $\frac{19\ \text{Nov.}}{1\ \text{Dec.}}$, 1840.

ON the first intelligence which we received here of the capture of St. Jean d'Acre, I immediately hastened to inform your Excellency of the lively satisfaction with which the Emperor had welcomed that event, in which His Majesty was pleased to recognize the fruit of the active and persevering course which the English Government has pursued since the conclusion of the Treaty of London. Independently of the sentiments which you have already been instructed, M. le Baron, to express on this occasion to the Principal Secretary of State, our august Master has also felt it necessary himself

to congratulate the Queen upon a result so glorious for the British navy, so decisive for the final success of the cause which England and Russia are called upon to support together. This is the object of the letter, inclosed in original and in copy, which the Emperor addresses to His august Friend and Ally. Being desirous by the same opportunity to testify to Her his full estimation of the admirable conduct of Admiral Stopford and of Commodore Napier, the Emperor places at Her disposal, for them, the Cross of St. George of the second and of the third class. Have the goodness, M. le Baron, to deliver to Lord Palmerston the Insignia thereof, which are likewise transmitted herewith, requesting him to convey to its high destination the Cabinet letter which accompanies them. The English Government will perceive, we do not doubt, in the just homage thus paid to the bravery of the two sailors, a fresh proof of the disinterested manner in which we participate in the glory of our Allies, and of the sincerity of our zeal for the triumph of our common policy.

Accept, &c.,

(Signed) NESSELRODE.

No. 92.

Viscount Palmerston to the Lords of the Admiralty.

My Lords, *Foreign Office, December* 15, 1840.

I HAVE had under my consideration the letter of your Lordships' Secretary of yesterday's date, inclosing a copy of a despatch from Commodore Napier, dated the 26th of November, with copies of that officer's correspondence with Boghos Bey; and also the further despatch from Commodore Napier of the 28th of November, which has been communicated to me by your Lordships this day, inclosing the Articles of Agreement signed by Commodore Napier and Boghos Bey, on the 27th of November.

I have to request your Lordships to convey to Commodore Napier the approval of Her Majesty's Government of the steps taken by him on this occasion, though without any instructions to that effect, and upon his own responsibility, to carry into execution the arrangements contemplated by the Treaty of the 15th of July, and to put an end to the contest in the Levant.

But the instruction given by your Lordships to Sir Robert Stopford in pursuance of my letter of the 14th of November, will have reached Sir Robert Stopford a few days after he received from Commodore Napier a report of the result of his negotiation at Alexandria; and it is uncertain whether Sir Robert Stopford will have considered the instruction of the 14th of November as superseding Commodore Napier's arrangement, or whether he will have looked upon Commodore Napier's arrangement as superseding that instruction.

In this state of things, Her Majesty's Government must postpone a final communication with respect to the arrangement made by Commodore Napier, till they learn, as they probably will in a few days' time, what course Sir Robert Stopford took upon the receipt of the instruction of the 14th of November. But there is one part of the Articles signed by Commodore Napier and Boghos Bey, upon which it is necessary that an instruction should immediately be sent to Sir Robert Stopford.

In the First Article, Boghos Bey, on the part of Mehemet Ali, takes two engagements: the one is to order the Egyptian troops to evacuate Syria; the other is to restore the Turkish fleet. The first engagement was to be fulfilled immediately, and was to be conditional only upon the promise of Commodore Napier that he would, in his capacity of Commander of the British fleet before Alexandria, suspend hostilities against Alexandria, and every other part of the Egyptian territory. The other engagement was eventual, and was to be fulfilled as soon as Mehemet Ali should have received an official notification that the Porte grants him the hereditary government of Egypt, and that this concession is, and shall continue to be, under the guarantee of the Four Powers. Now it is necessary that Sir Robert Stopford should lose no time in making known to Mehemet Ali that this last demand of his, that the Four Powers should guarantee to him the grant of the hereditary government of Egypt, if that grant should be made to him by the Sultan, cannot be complied with.

In the first place, as far as Great Britain is concerned, it would be inconsistent with the principles which guide the conduct of the British Government to guarantee to a subject a grant of administrative authority made to him by his Sovereign within the dominions of that Sovereign; and, in the next place, as regards the Four Powers, one of the main objects which those Powers had in view in concluding the Treaty of the 15th of July, was to uphold and secure the independence of the Sultan's Throne. But it is obvious that such a standing interference by the Four Powers in the internal affairs of the Turkish Empire, as would be implied by the guarantee demanded by Mehemet Ali, would be inconsistent with that independence, and would, as far as the province of Egypt is concerned, tend essentially to impair it. For these reasons, neither Great Britain singly nor the Four Powers jointly, can give the guarantee demanded by Mehemet Ali.

That which the Four Powers will do, is to recommend to the Porte to make the concession specified in the communication which Sir Robert Stopford has been instructed to convey to Mehemet Ali.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 93.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, December* 17, 1840.

HER Majesty's Government have received from Commodore Napier a copy of the Articles of Agreement concluded between him and Boghos Bey, on the 27th of November, by which Boghos Bey engaged, on the part of Mehemet Ali, that the Egyptian troops should immediately evacuate Syria, on condition that Commodore Napier should suspend hostilities against Egypt, and that the Turkish fleet should be given up by Mehemet Ali, as soon as Mehemet Ali should be informed from Constantinople, that the Sultan had granted him the hereditary government of Egypt, and provided that grant were guaranteed to Mehemet Ali by the Four Powers.

As these Articles of Agreement will have reached Sir Robert Stopford much about the same time as the instruction sent to him by the Lords of the Admiralty on the 14th of November, it is doubtful which of the two Sir Robert may have determined to act upon; and whether he will have considered the instruction of the 14th of November as superseding the Articles of Agreement, or the Articles of Agreement as superseding the instruction.

If Sir Robert Stopford has taken the first course, and has sent a communication to Mehemet Ali, in pursuance of the instruction of the 14th of November, there can be no doubt that Mehemet Ali will have consented to do what was required of him by that instruction; and in that case Sir Robert Stopford will have transmitted Mehemet Ali's acquiescence to Constantinople; and then your Excellency and your Colleagues will, of course, have given to the Porte the advice specified in my despatch of the 15th of October to your Excellency; and your Excellency will before this, have sent off to this office a report of the decision of the Porte, which has, no doubt, been in conformity with the advice so given.

But if Sir Robert Stopford has taken the second course, and has looked upon the Articles of Agreement of the 27th of November as superseding the instruction of the 14th of November, he will in that case have sent those Articles of Agreement to Constantinople, as being virtually equivalent to the written engagement required from Mehemet Ali by the instruction of the 14th of November.

In that case, however, a doubt may have been felt by your Excellency and your Colleagues what steps you should take in pursuance of the instructions contained in my despatch of the 15th of October, and in the corresponding instructions sent from Vienna, Petersburgh, and Berlin; because those instructions, modified by the subsequent letter to the Admiralty of November 14, contemplated the unconditional submission of Mehemet Ali to the Sultan, as a preliminary to the advice to be given to the Porte to reinstate Mehemet Ali in the Government of Egypt; and, on the contrary, Mehemet Ali, in the

demands which he sets forth in the first Article of the Agreement, signed on the 27th of November, engages to restore the fleet only on two conditions,—the one being, that the Sultan should grant him hereditary tenure in the Government of Egypt,—and the other being, that such grant on the part of the Sultan should be placed under the guarantee of the Four Powers.

It appears to Her Majesty's Government that the fact that Mehemet Ali attached the first of these conditions to his restoration of the fleet, need not prevent the Porte from making to him that concession. For, in fact, those Articles of Agreement were substantially a complete surrender on the part of Mehemet Ali; and he was led to suppose, that in asking for hereditary tenure, he was only asking that which the Porte was willing to give. But the second condition, namely, the guarantee of the Four Powers, is one which cannot be complied with; and your Excellency should, on this point, give to the Porte the same explanations which Sir Robert Stopford has been instructed, in pursuance of my letter to the Admiralty of the 15th instant, to give to Mehemet Ali.

It has been reported, but upon what authority is not known, that the Porte was, towards the end of November, but before it had heard of the submission of Mehemet Ali, disinclined to revoke the decree which had deprived him of the Government of Egypt. It is not unnatural that such a feeling should have existed at that time in the mind of the Turkish Government, but Her Majesty's Government hope that subsequent events, and the unanimous advice of the Four Powers, will have removed these objections on the part of the Porte, and will have led the Porte to accept the settlement effected by Commodore Napier's arrangement, or by the subsequent more ample submission of Mehemet Ali.

It would indeed be necessary, that, in reinstating Mehemet Ali in the Pashalic of Egypt, care should be taken to make such arrangements as would protect the people of Egypt from a continuance of the tyrannical oppression by which they have of late years been crushed, and should secure the Sultan against a renewal of those hostilities which have compelled him to have recourse to the aid of his Allies. But the means of effecting all these purposes may be found in the stipulations of the Treaty of the 15th of July, without removing Mehemet Ali from his Pashalic. The Treaty says, that all the laws of the Turkish Empire, and all the Treaties of the Porte, shall apply to Egypt, just as much as to any other province of the Sultan's dominions; and that the land and sea forces which may be maintained by the Pasha of Egypt, shall be part of the forces of the Empire, and be kept up for the service of the State.

Under these stipulations the Sultan will of course be able, by an exercise of his legislative authority, to establish unity of flag, and of military and naval uniform, throughout all his provinces; to limit the number of troops which each province shall, according to its population, maintain; to regulate the mode of enforcing the conscription, so as to protect the people from undue burthens and oppressive levies; to fix the number and class of ships of war which shall belong to the several naval ports of his dominions; to fix the manner in which commissions in the army and navy shall be granted in his name, and by his authority; to determine that a single monetary system shall prevail throughout all his dominions; and that there shall be but one mint. The Treaty specifies, that none but the legal imposts shall be levied in Egypt, which will secure the people from undue exactions; and the execution of the Convention of 1838, by which all monopolies are to be abolished, will at once free the industry of the people of Egypt from those oppressive restrictions which have hitherto kept the great mass of the population in the most abject poverty, and which have gradually thrown out of cultivation extensive tracts of land that were formerly tilled and productive.

By such means it seems to Her Majesty's Government, that future security might be afforded both to the Sultan and to his Egyptian subjects against the disposition of Mehemet Ali again to rebel against his Sovereign, and to oppress the people of the province he would have to govern.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 94.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, December* 18, 1840.

I INCLOSE for your Excellency's information, and for communication to M. Guizot, a copy of a letter which I addressed, on the 15th instant, to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, signifying to their Lordships the Queen's commands as to further instructions to be addressed to Admiral Sir Robert Stopford.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON

No. 95.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 20.)

My Lord, *Paris, December* 18, 1840.

I RECEIVED yesterday your despatch of December 15, inclosing Commodore Napier's despatch to your Lordship of the 26th of November, and his correspondence with Boghos Bey.

I read with surprise, in the Commodore's despatch, that a French steamer had arrived three days before at Alexandria with a Negotiator, who had joined with the other French Agents already established there, in endeavours to prevent the success of his negotiation with Mehemet Ali. This statement is so at variance with M. Guizot's repeated assurances that he had directed M. Cochelet to advise Mehemet Ali to accede to the proposal which Admiral Sir Robert Stopford was instructed to make to the Pasha, that I could not but conclude that either it must have reference to some person whose mission was unknown to M. Guizot, or that it was founded upon erroneous information furnished by Boghos Bey, or some other Egyptian Agent. I this day, in conversation with M. Guizot, alluded to this new Negotiator, who must have been sent to Alexandria since M. Thiers quitted office, and I must say that the unhesitating and unembarrassed manner in which he denied that he had sent any Agent whatever to Egypt, and the repetition of what he had before said to me in regard to the recall of Count Walewski, and his instructions to M. Cochelet, fully confirmed my previous impressions.

I have an indistinct recollection of having heard at the time of the change of Ministry, that Marshal Soult proposed sending an officer to Egypt, and also that a French officer of the name of Beaufort, on whose representations of the force and efficiency of Ibrahim Pasha's army M. Thiers placed great reliance, was to return to the Levant. I will not fail to make further inquiries on the subject.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 96.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, December* 22, 1840.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 18th instant, in which your Excellency reports that M. Guizot denies having sent any Agent whatever to Alexandria, I have to acquaint your Excellency that I read to Baron de Bourqueney, last week, Commodore Napier's letter, and drew his attention to that passage which states the arrival of a new French Negotiator, who, in conjunction with M. Cochelet and Count Walewski, had endeavoured to prevent the arrangement which Commodore Napier was trying to effect; and Baron de Bourqueney said thereupon that he could not believe the latter part of the statement, because the person to whom Commodore Napier alluded, as having recently arrived, must have been M. de Beaufort, who, Baron de Bourqueney said, had been sent to Alexandria by M. Guizot immediately on his coming into office. Baron de Bourqueney further said that he could not think that M. de Beaufort had acted in a manner so contrary to M. Guizot's intentions.

It may be that Baron de Bourqueney was mistaken as to the time when M. de Beaufort was sent from Paris, and that M. de Beaufort was sent off by M. Thiers, and not by M. Guizot; but it would be desirable that your Excellency should ascertain when M. de Beaufort went, and by whom he was sent.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 97.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 23.)

My Lord, *Paris, December* 21, 1840.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatches to the 18th instant.

I this morning communicated to M. Guizot your Lordship's letter of the 15th ultimo to the Commissioners of the Admiralty, signifying to their Lordships the Queen's commands as to further instructions to be addressed to Admiral Sir Robert Stopford. The refusal of Her Majesty's Government to ratify that part of the Convention concluded between Commodore Napier and Boghos Bey, which stipulates for the guarantee by the Allied Powers of the hereditary government of Egypt, was expected by the French Minister, and he seemed not to apprehend that the want of that guarantee would retard the execution of the other arrangements of the Treaty, and expressed his persuasion that if the Sultan should be so ill-advised as to refuse to reinstate Mehemet Ali in the Government of Egypt, the Allied Powers would not aid the Turkish forces in expelling the Pasha from that pashalic.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 98.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 23.)

My Lord, *Vienna, December* 15, 1840.

M. DE PONTOIS is reported to have made in the latter days of November an attempt to induce the Porte to leave Candia to Mehemet Ali. This step on the part of M. de Pontois appears to have been taken in connection with advices received by him from Alexandria, in support of which opinion I inclose copy of Mehemet Ali's letter of the 11th of November to Louis Philippe, drawn up by M. Walewski, and evidently destined for communication to the Chambers, in order to serve the purposes of M. Thiers.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) BEAUVALE.

Inclosure in No. 98.

Mehemet Ali to the King of the French.

Sire,

JE sens le besoin d'exprimer à votre Majesté la reconnaissance dont je suis pénétré. Depuis longtemps le Gouvernement du Roi m'a témoigné de l'intérêt. Aujourd'hui votre Majesté met le comble à ses bontés pour moi en déclarant aux Puissances qu'elle considère mon existence politique comme indispensable à l'équilibre Européen. Cette nouvelle marque si signalée de l'intérêt que daigne me porter votre Majesté, m'impose des devoirs que je saurai remplir; et d'abord celui d'exprimer clairement et succinctement au Roi de la France les motifs de ma conduite.

Dans tous les temps, le vœu le plus sincère de mon cœur a été pour la prospérité de l'Empire Ottoman. Je désirais le voir heureux, tranquille, et puissant; mon ambition la plus grande a toujours été de lui venir en aide contre ses ennemis et de sacrifier pour sa défense tout ce que j'ai acquis péniblement par de longs travaux. Et je le dirai ici avec franchise, ce qui m'a toujours porté vers la France, ce qui m'a toujours engagé à me conformer à ses conseils, c'est que je savais que de tous les Gouvernemens de l'Europe c'était celui qui voulait le plus de bien, et de la manière la plus désintéressée, à l'Empire Ottoman.

Je prie votre Majesté de croire que c'est l'amour de mon pays qui a toujours dirigé ma conduite.

Ainsi après bien des efforts, bien des contrariétés, j'étais parvenu à faire régner l'ordre en Syrie, à faire succéder la paix et la tranquillité à l'anarchie et au désordre. Et si j'ai insisté si vivement pour que cette province restât sous mon gouvernement, c'est parceque j'avais la conviction que si elle m'était enlevée, tous les maux que j'en avais extirpés retomberaient de nouveau sur elle. Entre mes mains la Syrie était un élément de force qui me mettait à même de porter des secours efficaces au Sultan et à la Turquie; entre les mains de la Porte, j'ose le dire, la Syrie était vouée à l'anarchie, au désordre, à la guerre civile. Mais aujourd'hui ce que je craignais s'est en partie réalisé: l'influence étrangère est venue en aide aux élémens de discorde et d'insurrection: une première tentative avait été impuissante pour faire soulever les populations; cette fois-ci les efforts de ceux qui ont cru travailler pour l'intégrité de l'Empire Ottoman, en excitant à la révolte une de ses provinces, ont réussi, non à insurger tout le pays, mais à armer les unes contre les autres les populations, et à amener la guerre civile. Les motifs d'intérêt général qui me portaient à désirer conserver la Syrie sous mon gouvernement, n'existent donc plus. Il reste mes intérêts personnels et ceux de ma famille; ceux-là je suis prêt à les sacrifier à la paix du monde. C'est à la haute sagesse du Roi des Français que je m'adresse; je mets mon sort entre ses mains, elle réglera à sa volonté les arrangemens qui doivent terminer le différend.

Si votre Majesté le juge convenable, je suis prêt à me contenter en Syrie du Pachalic d'Acre. Ce pays a resisté à tous les efforts que l'on a tenté pour le soulever contre moi. Votre Majesté trouvera juste peut-être de me faire laisser l'Ile de Candie, qui jouit depuis longtemps sous mon gouvernement d'une prospérité inaltérable.

Mais si au contraire les hautes lumières de votre Majesté la portent à croire que le moment des concessions est passé, et que celui d'une résistance opiniâtre est arrivé, je suis prêt à combattre jusqu'à mon dernier soupir, et mes enfans aussi. Mon armée de Syrie est encore considérable; Damas, Alep, toutes les principales villes sont en mon pouvoir; mon armée du Hedjas est en marche, une partie est déjà au Caire, le reste y sera sous peu. Des Chéiks influens du Liban partent pour la montagne et me répondent de ramener les Druses et les Maronites à la soumission. J'ai quarante bâtimens prêts à prendre la mer au premier signal de votre Majesté. J'espère donc que personne ne se méprendra sur les véritables motifs qui m'inspirent la démarche que je fais aujourd'hui. Personne ne croira que c'est la peur qui me fait agir; j'ai pour moi toute ma vie pour répondre à une pareille accusation. Il y a quinze jours encore quand toute mon existence était menacée; on aurait pu voir de la faiblesse dans ma conduite si j'avais cédé; mais aujourd'hui que mon existence politique est sauvée par la déclaration de la France, je ne risque que peu de

choses à prolonger la guerre. Non, ce ne sont pas les forces qu'on déploie contre moi qui m'effrayent; ce qui m'effraye c'est d'être cause d'une guerre générale, c'est d'entraîner la France, à qui je dois tant, dans une guerre qui n'aurait d'autre but que mes intérêts personnels. Dans cette circonstance, je viens m'adresser à votre Majesté; la reconnaissance m'en faisait un devoir, et d'ailleurs j'ai pour le Roi des Français l'admiration, la confiance que sa sagesse et ses lumières inspirent au monde. Je viens mettre mon sort entre ses mains. Quelle que soit la décision du Roi, je l'accepterai avec reconnaissance, pourvu que votre Majesté veuille bien prendre part au Traité qui interviendra entre les Grandes Puissances pour régler ma destinée.

Enfin, quoi qu'en arrive, je prie le Roi de me permettre de lui dire que ma reconnaissance pour lui et la France sera éternelle dans mon cœur, que je la léguerai à mes enfans et à mes petits enfans comme un devoir sacré.

Je voulais envoyer un de mes principaux officiers porter cette lettre au pied du trône de votre Majesté, mais la difficulté et la longueur de la quarantaine m'ont déterminé à la remettre au Comte Walewski, qui la fera parvenir à votre Majesté.

(Translation.)

Sire,

I FEEL the necessity of expressing to your Majesty the sentiments of gratitude by which I am animated. For a long time past the Government of the King has shown an interest in me. Now Your Majesty completes your kindness to me by declaring to the Powers, that you consider my political existence as indispensable to the balance of Europe. This fresh and signal mark of the interest which Your Majesty deigns to bear towards me, imposes upon me duties which I shall know how to discharge; and first that of representing clearly and succinctly to the King of France the motives of my conduct.

At all times, the most sincere desire of my heart has been for the prosperity of the Ottoman Empire. I wished to see it happy, tranquil, and powerful; my greatest ambition has always been to come to its aid against its enemies, and to sacrifice in its defence all that I have painfully acquired by great labour. And I will here say frankly, that I have always been inclined towards France, and have always been induced to act in accordance with its advice, because I knew that of all the Governments of Europe it was that which desired the greatest good, and in the most disinterested manner, for the Ottoman Empire.

I request Your Majesty to believe that the love of my country has always guided my conduct.

Thus, after many efforts and many difficulties, I succeeded in establishing order in Syria, in substituting peace and tranquillity for anarchy and disorder. And if I have insisted so strongly upon that province remaining under my government, it is because I was convinced that if it was taken away from me, all the evils which I had rooted out of it would again befall it. In my hands Syria was an element of power which enabled me to give effectual assistance to the Sultan and to Turkey; in the hands of the Porte, I venture to say, Syria was given over to anarchy, to disorder, and to civil war. But now that which I feared has been partly realised: foreign influence has come to the aid of the elements of discord and insurrection; a first attempt was unable to raise the population; this time the efforts of those who have considered themselves as labouring for the integrity of the Ottoman Empire, by exciting one of its provinces to revolt, have succeeded, not in raising the whole country, but in arming the people against each other, and in bringing on a civil war. Therefore, the motives of general interest which induced me to wish to keep Syria under my government no longer exist. My personal interest and that of my family remain; I am ready to sacrifice these for the peace of the world. I appeal to the exalted wisdom of the King of the French; I leave my fate in his hands; he will regulate, according to his will, the arrangements which are to settle the dispute.

If Your Majesty thinks proper, I am ready to be satisfied in Syria with the Pashalic of Acre. That country has resisted all the efforts which have

been made to raise it against me. Your Majesty will perhaps find it right to leave me the Island of Candia, which has for a long time enjoyed unalterable prosperity under my Government.

But if, on the contrary, Your Majesty's great experience leads you think that the time for concessions is past, and that the moment for an obstinate resistance is arrived, I am ready to resist to my last breath, and my children also. My army in Syria is still very great; Damascus, Aleppo, all the principal towns are in my power; my army in the Hedjaz is on its march; a part of it is already at Cairo, the rest will be there in a short time. Influential Sheiks of Lebanon are setting out for the mountain and answer to me for bringing back the Druses and Maronites to submission. I have forty vessels ready for sea on the first signal given by Your Majesty. I hope then that nobody will mistake the real motives which have suggested to me the step which I am now taking. Nobody will think that it is fear which induces me to act thus; I have all my life to adduce in my favour in answer to such an accusation. It was but a fortnight ago that my whole existence was threatened; it might have been thought that there was weakness in my conduct if I had yielded; but now that my political existence is saved by the declaration of France, I risk but little by prolonging the war. No, I am not alarmed by the forces which are employed against me; but I am fearful of being the cause of a general war, and of hurrying France, to whom I owe so much, into a war which could have no other object than my personal interest. Under these circumstances, I have addressed myself to Your Majesty; gratitude made it my duty to do so; and, moreover, I entertain for the King of the French the admiration and the confidence with which his wisdom and his experience inspire the world. I have left my fate in his hands. Whatever the decision of the King may be, I shall receive it with gratitude, provided that Your Majesty will deign to join in the Treaty which will be concluded between the Great Powers for the purpose of deciding my fate.

In short, whatever may happen, I request the King to permit me to assure him that my gratitude to him and to France will never be effaced from my mind, that I shall leave it as an inheritance to my children and my grandchildren as a sacred duty.

I wished to send one of my principal officers to convey this letter to the foot of Your Majesty's throne, but the difficulties and the lengthened period of the quarantine have determined me to deliver it to Count Walewski, who will convey it to your Majesty.

No. 99.

Rechid Pasha to Chekib Effendi.—(*Communicated by Chekib Effendi at Paris through Lord Granville, and received in London, December* 24.)

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, *Le* 1 *Chewal*, 1256. (*November* 26, 1840.)

PAR votre dépêche du 1er Ramazan, vous m'informez que dans un entretien que vous avez eu avec son Excellence M. le Vicomte Palmerston, ce Ministre vous a dit que, d'après les nouvelles qu'il avait reçues de Constantinople, le Gouvernement Ottoman semblerait disposé, pour ménager la France, et empêcher une guerre en Europe, à demander la médiation de cette Puissance pour faire évacuer la Syrie aux troupes Egyptiennes, en réhabilitant Méhémet Ali dans la qualité de Pacha avec l'hérédité de l'Egypte. Le principal Secrétaire d'Etat des Affaires Etrangères a ajouté, que pour ce qui regarde la réhabilitation de Méhémet Ali, son Gouvernement y était également disposé, et que des instructions avaient été transmises à ce sujet à M. l'Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Britannique à Constantinople; mais qu'il différait d'opinion en ce qui avait trait à la demande de la médiation de la France, qu'il considérait comme inadmissible par les Cours Alliées. Vous m'avez informé, en même temps, que sa Seigneurie vous avait conseillé d'écrire à votre Ambassadeur à Paris, Nouri Effendi, pour l'engager à suspendre toute démarche de ce genre qui pourrait lui avoir été préscrite auprès du Gouvernement Français.

Cette communication, M. l'Ambassadeur, m'a vivement peiné, car je dois

en inférer que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique suppose la possibilité, de la part du nôtre, de faire, dans la Question Egyptienne, des démarches qu'il lui laisse ignorer, et d'avoir des vues opposées aux siennes. Non seulement la Sublime Porte n'a jamais demandé la médiation de la France, non seulement elle n'a jamais autorisé Nouri Effendi à faire au Cabinet Français la moindre ouverture ni la moindre insinuation de ce genre, mais elle n'en a même jamais eu l'intention, et jamais je n'en ai rien dit ni officiellement ni confidentiellement à qui que ce fut, qui pût faire soupçonner une pareille intention. C'est pourquoi je ne comprends pas comment son Excellence le principal Secrétaire d'Etat des Affaires Etrangères a pu recevoir l'information dont vous me parlez.

Si je dois me livrer aux conjectures pour me l'expliquer, voici ce que j'en pense.

Il y a un mois et demi environ, j'ai cru convenable, pour me conformer à l'exemple des autres Cours Alliées, d'inviter Nouri Effendi à exprimer au Cabinet Français nos regrets sur son isolement. Ce fut là la seule démarche faite par la Sublime Porte auprès de ce Cabinet relativement aux affaires d'Egypte; je ne dirai pas après, mais même avant la Convention de Londres, depuis que je suis de retour à Constantinople; et je n'ai pas manqué d'en informer immédiatement les quatre Représentans ici, qui l'ont tous approuvé. Le Cabinet Français aurait-il interprété cette démarche dans un sens à faire croire que nous avons voulu demander sa médiation? C'est ce que j'ignore; mais en tout cas ce que je viens d'exposer plus haut est la vérité toute pure.

Quant à la réhabilitation de Méhémet Ali en Egypte, je n'ai non plus jamais laissé entrevoir, soit à ce Cabinet, soit à son Ambassadeur ici, aucune opinion, aucune intention à ce sujet, et je dirai même que je n'ai jamais été sondé là-dessus. C'est seulement dans mes communications confidentielles avec les quatre Représentans Alliés que j'ai parlé, et par manière de conversation, de la possibilité d'obtenir de Sa Majesté le Sultan la réhabilitation de Méhémet Ali en Egypte, si leurs Cours la désiraient comme un moyen d'empêcher la guerre en Europe.

Remarquez au surplus, M. l'Ambassadeur, que même avec les Représentans sus-mentionnés je n'ai pu m'occuper de cette réhabilitation que comme d'une simple possibilité, puisque, n'ayant jamais été dans le cas de prendre les ordres de Sa Majesté sur ce point, il ne m'était pas donné, comme il ne m'est pas donné même à l'heure qu'il est, d'énoncer à ce sujet une opinion formelle. Mais je dirai de plus, qu'en me permettant d'énoncer cette possibilité même, je n'ai eu en vue que de donner une nouvelle preuve du désir de la Sublime Porte de déférer au vœu de ses Alliés, dont la destitution de Méhémet Ali paraissait avoir encouru la désapprobation.

Ces expositions que je vous autorise, M. l'Ambassadeur, à porter à la connaissance de M. le Vicomte Palmerston, suffiront, je l'espère, pour fixer son jugement au sujet de l'information dont il vous a entretenu.

J'y ajouterai une dernière considération.

Nul n'ignore toutes les tentations, les séductions, les menaces même dirigées contre moi avant la Convention du Juillet, et lorsque nous n'étions liés par aucun engagement positif, pour me faire dévier de la ligne politique que m'était préscrite par les intérêts de mon pays. Les faits ont prouvé que j'ai su résister à tout, et justifier la confiance des Cabinets dont les vues concordaient avec les nôtres. Et maintenant que le succès est venu couronner nos communs efforts; maintenant que mon pays a pu recueillir, par la Convention du Juillet, la fruit de la persévérance de son Gouvernement dans la voie si parsemée d'écueils qu'il avait adoptée; lorsqu'enfin des obligations sacrées nous sont imposées par le parti solennel qui nous unit aujourd'hui aux Quatre Puissances, l'on me croirait assez mal avisé pour changer de direction, et assez peu jaloux de la confiance de mon Souverain et de l'estime publique pour agir en sens contraire à ces obligations. Je me réputerais malheureux, M. l'Ambassadeur, si je pouvais être un seul instant l'objet d'un pareil soupçon.

(Signé) RECHID PACHA.

(Translation.)

Chewal 1, 1256.
November 26, 1840.

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur,

IN your despatch of the 1st Ramazan, you inform me that, at an interview which you had had with his Excellency Viscount Palmerston, that

Minister told you that, according to the intelligence which he had received from Constantinople, the Ottoman Government would seem disposed, in order to keep well with France, and to prevent a war in Europe, to request the mediation of that Power for the purpose of procuring the evacuation of Syria by the Egyptian troops, by restoring to Mehemet Ali the title of Pasha with the hereditary succession in Egypt. The Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs added, that with regard to the reinstatement of Mehemet Ali, his Government was equally favourable to it, and that instructions had been sent to Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople upon that subject; but that he differed in opinion with respect to the request for the mediation of France, which he considered as inadmissible by the Allied Courts. You informed me, at the same time, that his Lordship had advised you to write to our Ambassador at Paris, Nouri Effendi, to invite him to suspend any overture of this sort which he might have been instructed to make to the French Government.

This communication has pained me acutely, M. l'Ambassadeur, for I must infer from it that Her Britannic Majesty's Government supposes the possibility of our Government taking, upon the Egyptian Question, steps of which we leave them in ignorance, and of our entertaining views opposed to theirs. Not only has the Sublime Porte never requested the mediation of France, not only has it never authorized Nouri Effendi to make the slightest overture or the slightest hint of this sort to the French Cabinet, but it has never even had an intention of doing so, and I have never said anything either officially or confidentially to any person, which could cause any suspicion of such an intention. Therefore I do not understand how his Excellency the Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, can have received the information of which you speak to me.

If I must trust to conjecture to explain it, this is what I think with respect to it.

About a month and a half since, I thought proper, in order to follow the example of the other Allied Courts, to request Nouri Effendi to express to the French Cabinet our regret at its isolated position. That was the only step taken by the Sublime Porte with regard to that Cabinet relative to the affairs of Egypt; I will not say after, but even before the Convention of London, since I have returned to Constantinople; and I did not fail immediately to inform the Four Representatives here thereof, who all approved of it. Could the French Cabinet have interpreted that step in such a sense as to cause a belief that we had desired to request its mediation? That I do not know; but in any case what I have above stated is only the simple truth.

As to the reinstatement of Mehemet Ali in Egypt, I have also never allowed any opinion or intention on this subject to be apparent, either to that Cabinet or to its Ambassador here, and I will even say that I have never been sounded thereupon. It was only in my confidential communications with the Four Allied Representatives, and in the way of conversation, that I have spoken of the possibility of obtaining from His Majesty the Sultan the reinstatement of Mehemet Ali in Egypt, if their Courts desired it as a means of preventing war in Europe.

Observe, moreover, M. l'Ambassadeur, that even with the above-mentioned Representatives I have only been able to treat that reinstatement as an event of bare possibility, because, never having been in a situation to take the orders of His Majesty upon that point, it was not in my power, as it is not even now, to give a formal opinion upon the subject. But I will say further, that in allowing myself to speak of even that possibility, my only object was to give a fresh proof of the desire of the Sublime Porte to yield to the wishes of its Allies, whose disapprobation appeared to have been incurred by the deposition of Mehemet Ali.

These statements, which I authorize you, M. l'Ambassadeur, to communicate to Viscount Palmerston, will, I hope, be sufficient to settle his opinion upon the subject of the information about which he spoke to you.

I will add thereto one further consideration.

Nobody is ignorant of all the temptations, allurements, and even threats directed against me before the Convention of July, and when we were not bound by any positive engagements, in order to make me deviate from the

line of policy which the interests of my country prescribed to me. Facts have proved that I have known how to resist everything, and to justify the confidence of the Cabinets whose views agree with ours. And now that success has crowned our joint efforts; now that my country has gathered, by the Convention of July, the fruit of the perseverance of its Government in the course, so full of difficulties, which it had adopted; when, in short, sacred obligations are imposed upon us by the solemn engagement which now unites us to the Four Powers, I should be thought sufficiently ill-advised were I to change my course, and scarcely sensible enough of the confidence of my Sovereign and of public estimation were I to act in a sense contrary to those obligations. I should consider myself unfortunate, M. l'Ambassadeur, if I could, for a single instant, be liable to such a suspicion.

(Signed) RECHID PASHA.

No. 100.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 22.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, November 25, 1840.*

HIS Excellency the Internuncio has been so good as to allow me to take copies, which I inclose, of three documents relating to Syria and Egypt, which I think are well worthy of your Lordship's perusal. They corroborate, to a certain degree, the letter from Mr. Larking of the 16th instant, but they give a clearer view of the state of affairs, and of the designs of Mehemet Ali.

Inclosure 1 in No. 100.

Ibrahim Pasha to Mehemet Ali, (without date.)

EYUB AGA m'a apporté hier la lettre de votre Altesse. Je l'ai lue et bien comprise. Le même jour, le 3 Ramazan, sont venus ici Sélim et Ismael Pacha avec Goubran Effendi. Le Hasné n'étant pas bien pourvu, le paiement n'a pas pu se faire. Il est indispensable de m'envoyer 47,000 bourses. Voici ce que disent Sélim et Ismael. Les équipages des régimens d'Artillerie n'ont plus d'orge. La Cavalerie en manque aussi, et il est impossible de s'en procurer. Les paysans cachent tout. Ils ne veuillent ni payer, ni donner rien. Les infidèles de Saïda les ont rendus audacieux.

Cependant nous manquons de beaucoup de choses. Si la mer ne sera pas bientôt libre, la Syrie ne sera pas tenable; voici comme vont les choses. Si, il y a onze jours, votre Altesse m'avait ordonné de me retirer d'ici, je ne l'aurais pas fait: mais aujourd'hui tout a changé. Notre Infanterie serait bonne, mais les Syriens ne valent rien. Je les ai laissé partir en leur faisant laisser les armes. Les Arnauts, ayant parlé à quelque séducteur, demandent leur solde ou leur congé: je les ai laissé partir. Une portion de Hanadi a eu le même sort. Nous sommes donc seuls. Les pluies et les froids deviennent incommodes. Les bivouacs ne valent rien. Je puis tenir où je suis jusqu'à la fin du Ramazan; mais je ne saurais amener les pièces dans le cas que votre Altesse voulut pour le moment abandonner Ber-es-Sham (la Syrie). Nos adversaires reçoivent des secours de Constantinople et de Malte. Les bâtimens, les soldats, les munitions leur arrivent journellement, et ils parcourent les côtes de la Syrie en autant d'heures que moi j'aurais pu l'effectuer en jours. Il est par conséquent prudent de ne pas venir ici avec la flotte, car les Anglais pourraient la prendre sous nos yeux. Les Consuls m'ont fait savoir que l'on veut bombarder Akka. Bombarder peut-être, mais prendre, pour le moment, non. Tout y est en bon état. Mahmoud a demandé des Artilleurs; je lui en envoie 340, car ils me sont inutiles dans ma position ici. Rien de nouveau de la frontière. Maggiun Beg est à Alep. Ahmed Beg se retirera si la troupe Ottomane voudra avancer. La saison cependant n'est pas bien favorable pour nos adversaires, et ils ne sont pas en nombre. Maggiun suppose qu'il y a des espions et des séducteurs à

Alep, et que le bas peuple est aveugle: la même chose arrive à Damas; les pièces le confirment.

N.B.—Ladate présumée de cette lettre est le 4 Ramazan (le 30 Octobre). Elle a été traduite par le Consul de France, mais ne lui a pas été remise.

(Translation.)

EYUB AGA brought me your Highness's letter yesterday. I have read it and thoroughly understood it. The same day, the 3rd Ramazan, Selim and Ismael Pasha came here with Goubran Effendi. The Hasné (Treasury) not being well provided, the payment could not be made. It is indispensable that 47,000 purses should be sent to me. This is what Selim and Ismael say. The trains of the regiments of artillery have no more barley. The cavalry is also in want of it, and it is impossible to procure it. The peasants conceal every thing. They will neither pay nor give any thing. The infidels of Sidon have made them audacious.

Meanwhile we are in want of many things. If the sea is not soon open, Syria will not be tenable; this is the way in which things are going on. If, eleven days since, your Highness had ordered me to retire from hence, I would not have done it: but now all is changed. Our infantry would be good, but the Syrians are not worth any thing. I have allowed them to go away, making them leave their arms. The Arnaouts, having spoken to some seducer, demand their pay or their discharge. I have allowed them to go away. A portion of Hanadi has been similarly treated. We are, therefore, alone. The rains and the cold become troublesome. The bivouacs are of no use. I can remain where I am till the end of the Ramazan; but I could not bring away the artillery in case your Highness should wish for the moment to abandon Ber-es-Sham (Syria). Our adversaries receive succours from Constantinople and from Malta. Vessels, soldiers, and ammunition reach them daily, and they run over the coast of Syria in as many hours as I should take days to do so. It is consequently prudent not to come here with the fleet, for the English could capture it before our eyes. The Consuls have let me know that it is intended to bombard Acre. To bombard it perhaps, but to capture it, at present, no. Every thing there is in a good state. Mahmoud has applied for artillerymen; I send him 340, for thay are useless to me in my position here. Nothing new from the frontier. Maggiun Beg is at Aleppo. Ahmed Beg will retire if the Ottoman troops should advance. However, the season is not very favourable for our adversaries, and they are not numerous. Maggiun presumes that there are spies and seducers at Aleppo, and that the common people are blind: the same thing has happened at Damascus; the despatches confirm this.

N.B.—The supposed date of this letter is the 4th Ramazan (30th of October). It was translated by the French Consul, but was not delivered to him.

Inclosure 2 in No. 100.

Translation of a Report from Alexandria.

Le 15 *Novembre*, 1840.

LA nouvelle de la prise de St. Jean d'Acre par les Alliés est parvenue ici le 9 du courant par le bateau à vapeur Français "l'Euphrate." Peu avant arrivèrent des Tatars par terre, annonçant l'apparition des escadres combinées par devant la dite ville avec l'intention de l'attaquer.

Méhémet Ali, qui à l'arrivée de ces nouvelles n'avait pas désespéré encore que ses affaires en Syrie pourraient prendre une tournure favorable, mit tout en œuvre pour y parvenir. On écrivit au Caire pour y parvenir sur-le-champ un corps d'armée dont l'armement avait été préparé depuis quelque temps. Simultanément les ordres tenus en réserve furent expédiés pour la sortie des escadres, lui devaient se diriger sur les côtes de Syrie avec des instructions cachetées,

On comptait sur St. Jean d'Acre comme sur un point, sinon imprenable pour les forces actuelles des Alliés, du moins tel à pouvoir leur résister assez longtemps pour qu'elles se trouvassent entièrement épuisées avant sa reddition.

Pendant qu'on s'occupait de ces mesures arriva au palais le Consul-Général de France pour présenter à Méhémet Ali en audience publique les officiers du Pape venus pour recevoir quelques colonnes d'albâtre. Ce Consul fit tomber de suite la conversation sur la sortie de l'escadre, et conseilla très-énergiquement l'abandon de cette idée. Ceci se passait dans la Grande Salle d'Audience en présence de plusieurs dignitaires et d'un public très-nombreux, lorsque Méhémet Ali éclata, et en élevant la voix, s'exprima en ces termes:—" C'est vous et votre France qui m'avez mis dans cette position; je suis las des conseils vains et inutiles; désormais je n'écouterai plus personne et ne suivrai que mes propres inspirations."

M. Cochelet repliqua en priant le Pacha d'attendre encore, et en ajoutant que les affaires n'étaient pas terminées; qu'il espérait recevoir par le prochain bateau à vapeur la nouvelle que la médiation de la France a été acceptée, ou qu'elle a recours aux armes. Toutefois Méhémet Ali ne se laissa pas calmer; il déclara de nouveau à haute voix, qu'il n'attendra plus de secours d'aucune Puissance étrangère, et qu'à l'avenir il ne se laisserait guider que par sa propre volonté.

J'ai tâché de rendre compte de cette conversation aussi distinctement que possible, pour faire comprendre que Méhémet Ali avait l'intention de faire connaître publiquement quel peu de cas il faisait des promesses Françaises, quoique d'autres circonstances semblent autoriser une opinion contraire.

Quant à la prise de St. Jean d'Acre, elle a produit ici une sensation profonde, qui a tout à fait ébranlé le parti Egyptien. La dernière étincelle d'espérance en faveur de la Syrie a disparu tout à coup. Les amis de Méhémet Ali, tant Européens que Musulmans, ainsi que les Primats les plus influens du pays, se réunissent pour le déterminer à la condescendance. Méhémet Ali se montrait au commencement taciturne et réfléchissant. Il ne trouva pas ces insinuations dignes d'aucune réponse. Peu après cependant il changeait de contenance, et il commençait par écouter les conseils de ces amis. Le soir du 10 il fit connaître à ceux-ci d'avoir pris la résolution de finir tout à l'amiable, car l'homme, disait-il, n'emporte rien de tout cela de ce monde-ci; il parlait de l'envoi d'un parlementaire avec des propositions d'arrangement aux deux Amiraux, de la restitution de la flotte Turque, du rappel d'Ibrahim Pacha de Syrie; et le public put, durant une journée, se bercer de l'espoir d'une paix prochaine.

Le 11, M. Cochelet et le Comte Walewski se rendaient de nouveau chez Méhémet Ali pour le détourner de son projet. Ils lui représentèrent les suites fâcheuses que les mesures susdites pourraient entraîner, et s'épuisèrent en assurances de l'appui de la France dans le cas où on en viendrait aux extrémités. En même temps ils demandèrent de lui une déclaration définitive sur le système qu'il comptait suivre à l'avenir, demande à laquelle toutefois il ne répondit que d'une manière evasive. Ce concert, quelque passif que fût le rôle qu'y joua Méhémet Ali, amena cependant, sous certains rapports, un changement dans l'état des choses. L'envoi d'un parlementaire fut rejeté comme contraire à la dignité de Méhémet Ali, et les préparatifs de guerre furent repris avec une nouvelle vigueur. On travaille depuis avec la plus grande activité à toutes les fortifications non encore achevées. Celles qui l'étaient déjà furent montées au complet et munies du matériel nécessaire. Comme on manquait d'Artillerie de terre, on débarqua des flottes 8000 Artilleurs et Matelots, dont quelques détachemens doivent être employés aussi sur d'autres points de la côte. Au débarquement de ces troupes se rattacha le désarmement de tous les bâtimens de guerre de notre part. Trois régimens de Cavalerie stationnés ici reçurent l'ordre de partir pour El-Ariche, vers où se dirigera aussi l'expédition préparée au Caire et destinée pour la Syrie. Enfin on annonça à la Garde Nationale que dorénavant on lui donnerait, comme aux troupes de ligne, une paye formelle et des rations,—mesure qui produisit la plus fâcheuse impression sur ce corps mécontent, qui se croit à présent entièrement incorporé au militaire.

En attendant, cependant, Ibrahim Pacha a été rappelé de Syrie, et l'ordre lui en a été transmis par quatre courriers expédiés par des routes différentes. Pour ce qui regarde d'ailleurs les préparatifs de guerre, il s'y rattache tant d'affectation et un désir si patent de produire de l'effet, que, quelque sérieux qu'ils puissent être, cette vue secondaire ne saurait être méconnue.

Voici le tableau qu'offre aujourd'hui la vie publique d'Alexandrie. D'après ce qui précède, il est difficile de voir au fond des choses. Mais je puis avancer ici, comme étant la conviction de plusieurs personnes admises dans la confiance de Méhémet Ali, que sa flexibilité continue, qu'il devient tous les jours plus étranger aux espérances qu'il avait placées dans le Gouvernement Français, et que tout le reste ne se fait que pour donner la meilleure couleur possible aux chances qu'il aurait dans le cas où il ne serait pas réduit à se battre pour la dernière pouce de terrain.

Le 16 *Novembre, au soir.*

P.S.—La nouvelle de la dissolution du Ministère Thiers a été apporté ici par le bateau à vapeur arrivé hier. En la recevant Méhémet Ali a observé, dit-on, une attitude entièrement passive.

(Translation.)

November 15, 1840.

THE intelligence of the capture of St. Jean d'Acre by the Allies arrived here on the 9th instant by the French steam-boat, "l'Euphrate." A short time before some Tatars arrived by land, announcing the appearance of the combined squadrons before that town with the intention of attacking it.

Mehemet Ali, who, on the arrival of this intelligence, did not despair of his affairs in Syria still taking a favourable turn, used every means to bring that about. Orders were sent to Cairo for the immediate arrival there of a military force, the equipment of which had been prepared some time since. At the same time, the orders which had been held in reserve, were despatched for the departure of the squadrons which were to proceed to the coast of Syria with sealed instructions. St. Jean d'Acre was looked upon as a position, if not impregnable to the present forces of the Allies, at least such an one as would be able to resist them for so long a time that they would be entirely exhausted before its surrender.

While these measures were being taken, the Consul-General of France arrived at the palace, for the purpose of presenting to Mehemet Ali at a public audience the Papal officers who had come to receive some columns of alabaster. The Consul immediately turned the conversation to the departure of the squadron, and very earnestly advised the abandonment of that idea. This was taking place in the great hall of audience, in the presence of several dignitaries and of a considerable number of people, when Mehemet Ali broke out, and raising his voice expressed himself in these terms:—"It is you and your France who have placed me in this position; I am tired of vain and useless counsels; henceforward I shall no longer listen to anybody, and shall only follow my own ideas."

M. Cochelet replied by requesting the Pasha to wait a little, and adding that matters were not settled; that he hoped to receive by the next steam-boat intelligence that the mediation of France has been accepted, or that she has recourse to arms. However, Mehemet Ali would not allow himself to be quieted; he again loudly declared, that he would no longer wait for succour from any Foreign Power, and that for the future he would only allow himself to be guided by his own will.

I have endeavoured to report this conversation as clearly as possible, in order to make it understood that Mehemet Ali intended to make it publicly known how little value he attached to the promises of the French, although other circumstances appear to justify a contrary opinion.

As to the capture of St. Jean d'Acre, it has produced a deep sensation here, which has entirely shaken the Egyptian party. The last spark of hope in favour of Syria has all at once disappeared. The friends of Mehemet Ali, both Europeans and Mussulmans, as well as the most influential Chiefs of the country, unite for the purpose of inducing him to yield. Mehemet Ali at first appeared silent and thoughtful. He did not consider these suggestions worthy of any answer. Shortly afterwards, however, he changed his manner, and he began to listen to the advice of these friends. On the evening of the 10th he acquainted them that he had come to the resolution to

settle everything in a friendly manner; for man, he said, takes nothing of all this out of this world. He spoke of sending a Commissioner, with proposals for an arrangement, to the two Admirals, of restoring the Turkish fleet, of recalling Ibrahim Pasha from Syria; and the public could for one day cherish the hope of an approaching peace.

On the 11th, M. Cochelet and Count Walewski called again upon Mehemet Ali for the purpose of diverting him from his plan. They represented to him the evil consequences to which the above-mentioned measures might lead, and they exhausted their assurances of the support of France in case things should come to extremities. At the same time they required from him a definitive declaration as to the system which he intended to follow for the future, a demand to which, however, he replied in but an evasive manner. This conference, however passive may have been the part which Mehemet Ali played therein, brought about, nevertheless, in some respects a change in the state of things. The sending of a Commissioner was rejected as contrary to the dignity of Mehemet Ali, and the preparations for war were resumed with fresh vigour. The works of all the fortifications not yet finished have since been carried on with the greatest activity. Those which were already finished were completely armed and were provided with the necessary stores. As there was a deficiency in land artillery, 8,000 artillerymen and seamen were landed from the fleet, some detachments of whom are to be employed also upon other points of the coast. The disembarkation of these troops occasioned the disarming of all the ships of war on our part. Three regiments of cavalry stationed here received orders to go to El-Arish, in which direction also the expedition prepared at Cairo and destined for Syria is to proceed. Finally, the National Guard was informed that henceforth it would receive, like the troops of the line, regular pay and rations,—a measure which produced the most unfavourable impression upon that discontented body, which now considers itself entirely embodied with the military.

In the meanwhile, however, Ibrahim Pasha has been recalled from Syria, and the order to this effect has been sent to him by four couriers despatched by different routes. Moreover, with regard to the preparations for war, there is so much affectation, and so evident a desire to produce effect mixed up with them, that, however serious they may be, this secondary consideration should not be lost sight of.

Such is the picture which public life in Alexandria now presents. From the foregoing it is difficult to see to the bottom of things. But I can here assert, as the conviction of several persons admitted into the confidence of Mehemet Ali, that his pliableness continues; that he becomes every day more weaned from the hopes which he had reposed in the French Government; and that everything else is merely done for the purpose of giving the best possible colour to the chances which he would have, in case he should not be reduced to fight for the last inch of ground.

November 16, *at night.*

P.S.—The intelligence of the dissolution of the Thiers Ministry was brought here by the steam-boat which arrived yesterday. On receiving it Mehemet Ali preserved, it is said, an entirely passive attitude.

Inclosure 3 in No. 100.

Report from M. Laurin to the Internuncio.

Péra, le 24 *Novembre,* 1840.

D'APRES les nouvelles du Caire du 14 du courant la nouvelle de la prise d'Acre y avait produit une sensation difficile à décrire. L'Armée d'Ibrahim Pacha a reçu l'ordre de rentrer sans délai en Egypte; l'expédition de 6,000 hommes destinés pour la Syrie a fait halte, et 1,800 hommes seulement en seront détachés pour El-Arishe. Méhémet Ali fait tous les efforts pour se fortifier à Alexandrie, et prétend vouloir résister aux attaques des Alliés.

Les ouvriers des fabriques ainsi que les soldats pris du Rédif ont été congédiés, parceque le Gouvernement n'a pas pu les payer.

Les nouvelles d'Alexandrie du 16 du courant portent que Méhémet Ali a fait des reproches assez vifs, tant au Consul-Général de France qu'à M. de Walewski, sur la conduite de la France à son égard, et qu'il n'écouterait plus les conseils de cette nation, mais qu'il suivrait ses propres volontés; qu'il est prêt à s'entendre à l'amiable avec la Porte et ses Alliés; qu'il se contenterait de l'hérédité de l'Egypte, et qu'il aviserait incessamment sur ce que sera plus convenable, ou d'attendre une ouverture de la Porte, ou bien d'envoyer à Constantinople quelqu'un avec ses propositions de soumission.

Les Français lui suggéraient de faire ces ouvertures par l'entremise de la France: le Pacha penchait pour une entente avec l'Amiral Stopford. On suppose cependant que Méhémet Ali ne veut que gagner du temps pour faire sortir Ibrahim Pacha, qui se trouve dans une très-mauvaise position, de la Syrie, et pour se fortifier en Egypte. Les Egyptiens sont las des exigences du Pacha et prêts à se livrer aux Ottomans à discretion. Un esprit mutin a envahi l'escadre Egyptienne, et le Pacha en craint les conséquences. La nouvelle de l'insurrection des Naplousiens, qui doivent avoir massacré la garnison de Jérusalem et s'être emparés de la Sainte Ville, a complètement confondu le Vice-Roi et ses amis.

Agréez, &c.,
(Signé) M. LAURIN.

(Translation.)

Pera, November 24, 1840.

ACCORDING to the news from Cairo, of the 14th instant, the intelligence of the capture of Acre had produced a sensation there difficult to be described. The army of Ibrahim Pasha has received orders to return without delay to Egypt; the expedition of 6,000 men, destined for Syria, has halted, and only 1,800 men thereof will be detached to El-Arish. Mehemet Ali exerts himself to the utmost to strengthen himself at Alexandria, and pretends that he is ready to resist the attacks of the Allies.

The workmen of the manufactories, as well as the soldiers belonging to the militia, have been discharged, because the Government was unable to pay them.

The intelligence from Alexandria, of the 16th instant, states that Mehemet Ali has vehemently reproached both the Consul-General of France and M. de Walewski, for the conduct of France towards him, and that he would no longer listen to the advice of that nation, but that he would follow his own will; that he is ready to come to an amicable understanding with the Porte and its Allies; that he would content himself with the hereditary succession in Egypt, and that he would instantly consider which would be the most proper,—to wait for an overture from the Porte, or to send somebody to Constantinople with proposals of submission.

The French suggested to him that he should make these overtures through the medium of France: the Pasha inclined towards an understanding with Admiral Stopford. It is, however, supposed that Mehemet Ali only wishes to gain time to get Ibrahim Pasha, who is in a very bad position, out of Syria, and to strengthen himself in Egypt. The Egyptians are weary of the exactions of the Pasha, and ready to surrender at discretion to the Turks. A mutinous spirit pervades the Egyptian squadron, and the Pasha fears the consequences thereof. The news of the insurrection of the inhabitants of Naplouse, who appear to have massacred the garrison of Jerusalem, and to have taken possession of the Holy City, has completely confounded the Viceroy and his friends.

Accept, &c.,
(Signed) M. LAURIN.

No. 101.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 23.)

My Lord, *Therapia, November 30, 1840.*

I INCLOSE reports received yesterday evening from Mr. Wood, and I hope your Lordship will approve of the prudence and activity of that Gentleman, who has contributed more to the success obtained in Syria than most men.

Izzet Pasha and some few other ill-disposed Turks have created just dissatisfaction amongst some of the mountaineers. Izzet is recalled, and the others will be removed from authority. The Porte is ready to take any measures for ensuring to the Syrians the reward of their loyalty to the Sultan.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 101.

Mr. Wood to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Beyrout, November 10, 1840.*

HIS Excellency Selim Pasha has dictated to me the inclosed letter of thanks to your Lordship, for the honour his Sovereign has been graciously pleased to confer upon him, in promoting him to the rank of Ferik.

I avail myself of the opportunity to do justice to the honourable conduct of Selim Pasha, in his important command in Syria under so many trying circumstances, and to express my personal obligations to him for the readiness with which he has complied with all my suggestions and wishes, and for the assistance he has given me in every instance.

In repeating my thanks to your Lordship for his Highness the Grand Vizier's letter to me, giving me authority to interfere in the administration and in the arrangements of the civil affairs of Syria, I take the liberty of inclosing herewith a letter of thanks to his Highness under a flying seal.

Anxious not to betray the confidence reposed in me, I have made use of the authority of the Sublime Porte for the best interests of the Sultan, as far as it lays in my power, without, however, overstepping the limits which prudence, discretion, and delicacy towards the Turkish officers here impose upon me. I am greatly indebted to his Excellency the Moushteshar Effendi, whose amiable and conciliating disposition is beyond all praise, for his ready compliance with, and hearty co-operation in, all my demands. It is, however, but proper to state, that there remains yet a great deal to be done, which must be left for after considerations. In the mean time the greatest caution and prudence is required to conciliate the people, and please and content all parties,—a delicate task in a country where there are so many interests all clashing with each other, and where there are so many petty chiefs, who are reluctant to forego the right of governing their Clients in the manner of their forefathers, in favour of an enlightened and general system of administration.

In proportion as difficulties of this nature occur, I will take the liberty of noting them to your Lordship.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) RICHARD WOOD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 101.

Mr. Wood to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Beyrout, November 17, 1840.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith the translation of a letter addressed to me by his Excellency Selim Pasha, informing me of the evacuation

of Jaffa by the Egyptians. Selim Aga, Bim-Bashi, deserted to Acre with 800 men, but unfortunately the mountaineers attacked him on the road, killed about 200 of them, and allowed the remainder to proceed to join the Turkish troops in a state of nudity.

Ibrahim Bey, Brigadier-General, who commanded at Jaffa, retired with only a part of his troops, but the inhabitants arrested Mustapha Bey, the Colonel, and the officers that were with him, who are to be sent prisoners to Acre.

The possession of Jaffa will leave the Egyptians at Jerusalem no means of effecting their escape. The country, without exception, around them, is up in arms, and I am in hopes that the surrender of that important place will speedily follow. Jerusalem is surrounded by a strong wall, and is situated on the summit of lofty mountains, where it would be difficult to transport cannon. It could therefore be easily defended by a small number of Turkish soldiers, in the event of its surrender, which will be worth the sacrifice, as its inland position would render it invaluable in cutting off completely Ibrahim Pasha's retreat to Egypt.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) RICHARD WOOD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 101.

Selim Pasha to Mr. Wood.

(Translation.)

Sincere Friend, &c. *15th Ramazan*, 1257.

ON the 14th of the month Ramazan I received a letter from the inhabitants of Jaffa, as also a petition from Mustapha Bey, apprising me of the flight of the Egyptian General, Mustapha Bey, with his troops, the moment he learned from the fugitives that Acre was taken.

Mustapha Bey, Colonel in the Egyptian Army, endeavoured to follow him, but was prevented by the inhabitants, whose demand to have some troops sent for the protection and defence of the castle I have submitted to their Excellencies Izzet Pasha and the Admiral, and I hope they will speedily honour me with their answers.

I have also given orders for the removal of Mustapha Bey to this place.

I have great pleasure in informing you, that a Bim-Bashi with 800 men have joined us, and trusting to your friendship to do the needful, &c.,
(Signed) SELIM MUHAMED.

Inclosure 4 in No. 101.

Mr. Wood to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Beyrout, November* 19, 1840.

THE evacuation of Jaffa by the Egyptians has been followed by that of Jerusalem in the manner stated in the letter I have the honour to inclose herewith from the Kady or Judge of that place.

The mountains of Naplouse, as well as the capital of that district, have also returned to their allegiance to the Sultan, and have received the Governors appointed by his Excellency Selim Pasha.

The influential and powerful family of El Hadi was the chief support of Mehemet Ali's power in the South of Syria, the principal members of it holding the most lucrative and important commands under him.

At the capture of Acre, Sheik Mahmoud Abdul Hadi, the Superintendent-General, fled to Naplouse, and endeavoured apparently, according to the letter of the present Civil Governor of Acre inclosed, to reunite his friends and form a party against us. His efforts happily proving ineffectual, he has conformed to circumstances, and has tried to make amends for his past disloyalty by calling on the Sheiks of the different tribes of that neighbourhood to return to their allegiance to the Sultan.

Although, from what has come to my knowledge respecting the proceedings of this Mahmoud Abdul Hadi, I am far from placing reliance in his protestations of loyalty set forth in his letter; yet I have advised his Excellency Izzet Pasha to use him kindly, and to endeavour to withdraw him from the districts where he enjoys the greatest influence, by inviting him to come to Beyrout, by which, a useful servant may be secured to the Government hereafter. There is no doubt, however, but what his submission is as advantageous to us as it is ruinous to the cause of Mehemet Ali in the South. The securing of this family renders the possession of Naplouse a matter of still greater importance.

Previous to my departure from Acre, I had the satisfaction of procuring an interview, through my friend Sheik Said Abdul-Al, with the Chiefs of the districts of

Djebel-el Koura—Jousef and Salah.
Barakat Djebel Ferish—Kahlan Meflik, Effendi Homan.
Djauamat Mersouk Dadiji—El Meshalik, Mufti, and Hassan al Aly.
Salt—Nimr el Suleiman.

And of the Sheiks of the Arab tribes of

Araban el Sakem—Rahab.
Abad—Mufti and Abr el Heby.
Arabrbeni Saher—Nimr el Suleiman.
El Edivan—Salek el Amondik, Mohamed el Kaid.
Arabr el Balka—Abdul Aziz el Minof.

All of whom declared that, as true Mussulmans, they were not only bound to acknowledge the Sultan as their only true and legitimate master, but that they were enjoined to fight all who rebelled or took up arms against him.

I procured from his Excellency Selim Pasha separate Boyourouldis for them, and robes of honour, according to their custom, and dismissed them highly satisfied, and sincere in their professions of allegiance to their lawful Sovereign.

Sheik Said Abd el Al informs me also, that the Turcoman Chief Sheik Halfi Turkman is actively employed in making preparations to drive back Ibrahim Pasha's advanced posts on his left flank, and that he will endeavour to detach from the Egyptian Army the Emir el Fadl, with the Bedouin cavalry that is under his command.

The Bedouin Sheiks, as far south-east as Balka and Mikelka, are all come in to offer their services; Naplouse, Jaffa, Jerusalem, Hebron, Janin, Nazaret, Tiberias, Saffet, &c., are all now governed by native officers duly appointed by their Excellencies Izzet Pasha and Selim Pasha; and all the Arab Sheiks of the tribes occupying the intermediate districts have received personally their Boyourouldis from the same authorities. All the country, therefore, south and east of Acre, as far as El-Arish, except Gaza, Hebron, the Dead Sea, Salt, El Sedja, &c., have acknowledged and have submitted to the authority of the Sultan.

In announcing the foregoing effects of His Highness's arms and influence in these countries, I beg respectfully to offer my congratulations to your Lordship on the entire submission of the whole of Palestine and Judea to the Sublime Porte.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) RICHARD WOOD.

Inclosure 5 in No. 101.

The Kady Mollah's Letter on the Surrender of Jerusalem.

(Translation.)

After the usual compliments. 14*th Ramazan.*

ON the receipt of the noble Boyourouldi at the Mehkeme of Jerusalem, apprising us of the taking of all the sea-coast towns, of the submission of Mount Lebanon, and of all the inhabitants of those parts, as well as of the

panic and discomfiture of the Egyptian troops, I invited to my Divan the great and the small, the rich and the poor, on the 13th night of the holy month of Ramazan, and had it read publicly to them; who one and all responded, "We have heard, and we have obeyed; and have demanded that Seid Hussein Rechid Effendi should be confirmed in his civil government."

The 200 Egyptians, soldiers that composed the garrison of Jerusalem, have submitted, and have surrendered the castle. Mohamed Aga, with his 300 horsemen, have followed their example; I have attached them to the Civil Governor, but I have to request that 200 Turkish troops may be sent immediately, as a matter of great necessity, to deliver up to them the castle, and the gates of the town. By the will of the Almighty, all have returned to their allegiance to the Sublime Porte, and have expressed their contentment, not outwardly, but from the bottom of their hearts.

The public registers will be sent hereafter; in the mean time, letters have been sent to the Governors of Gaza, Ramah, Jericho, Naplouse, Djebel-el-Rahman and Djebel Halil, to present themselves. With the assistance of the Almighty, the population of all these places will readily tender their submission; and repeating my request that a few Turkish troops may be sent without delay,

I have, &c.,

(Signed) (L.S.) MOHAMED HAMED AGA,
Kady of Jerusalem.

Inclosure 6 in No. 101.

Seid Abd el Al, Governor of Acre, to Mr. Wood.

(Translation.)

Le 17 *Ramazan*, 1256.

APRES l'arrivée des forces des Alliés et celles du Sultan devant les murs d'Acre, la destruction des forts de la ville, et la fuite de tous les habitans rebelles qui s'y trouvaient, et qui, ne pouvant pas s'éloigner, ont été arrêtés, on a bien vu que le Chéik Mahmud Abdul Hadi, ex-Gérant d'Acre, après sa fuite s'est réuni avec son neveu Chéik Suliman el Hessen, ex-Gouverneur de Naplous, avec leurs familles et leurs gens, pour jurer fidélité au Gouverneur Egyptien (c'est-à-dire, d'être rebelles au Sultan). A ce sujet nous avons jugé nécessaire de nommer Chéik Zadig el Jamain Gouverneur de Naplous, étant resté fidèle à la cause du Sultan, d'après un boyourouldi de Sélim Pacha; il a été pourvu d'armes, et est parti pour Naplous afin d'attaquer l'ennemi. On a nommé aussi Mohammed el Yerar Gouverneur de Jamin, et aussitôt que la famille d'Abdul Hadi le sut, il ne pensa qu'à fuir de la ville; ils envoyèrent un d'eux à se présenter auprès de son Excellence Sélim Pacha pour se soumettre: ils obtinrent un boyourouldi pour leur sûreté. Son Excellence Sélim Pacha ordonna que leurs Chefs lui soient présentés, et le porteur du dit ordre est parti hier; et aujourd'hui les dits Chefs sont arrivés et se sont présentés auprès de son Excellence pour se soumettre à la cause du Sultan, en demandant à son Excellence une portion d'armes pour attaquer les Egyptiens, afin que par ce moyen ils pussent obtenir leur liberté. Mais je suis d'opinion qu'ils font cause commune avec Ibrahim Pacha, étant reconnus comme vrais partisans du Gouvernement Egyptien: ils se flattaient que le dit Gouvernement serait toujours victorieux dans ces provinces, ayant eu les emplois les plus honorifiques, comme cela vous aura été déjà rapporté. Ils disent avoir été attachés à la cause du Sultan: pourquoi donc ne l'ont-ils pas fait avant la destruction des murs d'Acre?

Le dit Gérant ne s'est pas rendu. Il a échappé après avoir vu que la citadelle ne résistait plus; et pour vous prouver davantage, il y a dix jours qu'Acre est à notre pouvoir, et ils n'y sont retournés que ce matin, après avoir observé leur mauvaise position, et leurs intérêts, qu'ils n'avaient aucun espoir au commandement de Naplous, car il était déjà occupé.

Prenant en considération le tout, vous remarquerez que leur présence ici n'est pas utile, et peut-être occasionnera des dissensions parmi les gens qui sont soumis au Sultan; et je suppose aussi, qu'étant attachés aux Egyptiens ils

soulèveront une portion de la montagne de Naplous en leur faveur, et de cette manière les pays ne peuvent jouir de la tranquillité.

Comme je suis un serviteur très-attaché au Sultan, je prends la liberté de vous donner mon opinion que leur départ de la Syrie serait nécessaire comme celle de l'Emir Béchir l'a été.

(Translation.)

17*th Ramazan*, 1256.

AFTER the arrival of the forces of the Allies and of the Sultan before the walls of Acre, the destruction of the forts of the city, and the flight of all the rebel inhabitants who were there, and who not being able to escape were arrested, it was evident that Sheik Mahmoud Abdul-Hadi, ex-Governor of Acre, after his flight, had joined his nephew Sheik Soliman el Hessen, ex-Governor of Naplouse, together with their families and people, in order to swear allegiance to the Egyptian Governor (that is to say, to become rebels to the Sultan). In this matter, we have thought it expedient, according to a Boyouruldi of Selim Pasha, to name Sheik Zadig el Jamain Governor of Naplouse, he having remained faithful to the cause of the Sultan; he has been furnished with arms, and has set out for Naplouse in order to attack the enemy. Mohammed el Yerar has also been named Governor of Jamin, and as soon as the family of Abdul-Hadi knew this, he thought of nothing but of escaping from the town; they sent one of their number to present himself to his Excellency Selim Pasha, to offer their submission: they obtained a Boyouruldi for their safety. His Excellency Selim Pasha ordered that their Chiefs should be presented to him, and the bearer of this order set out yesterday; and to-day, the said Chiefs have arrived, and have presented themselves before his Excellency to make their submission to the Sultan's cause, asking his Excellency for arms to attack the Egyptians, in order that by this means they may obtain their liberty. But I am of opinion, that they make common cause with Ibrahim Pasha, being known as sure partizans of the Egyptian Government; they flattered themselves that that Government would be always victorious in those provinces, having held the most honourable employments, as has already been reported to you. They say they have been attached to the cause of the Sultan; why then did they not do so before the destruction of the walls of Acre?

The aforesaid Governor has not surrendered himself. He fled on perceiving that the citadel no longer resisted, and in further proof of this, it is ten days since Acre has been in our power, and they have only returned this morning, on observing their awkward position, and the state of their interests, and that they had no hope of the command of Naplouse, for it was already occupied.

Taking the whole into consideration, you will remark that their presence here is of no use, and may occasion dissensions among those who have submitted to the Sultan; and I think also, that being attached to the Egyptians, they will raise part of the mountain of Naplouse in their favour, and thus the country cannot enjoy tranquillity.

As I am a most attached servant of the Sultan, I take the liberty of giving it as my opinion that their departure from Syria would be as necessary as that of the Emir Bechir has been.

Inclosure 7 in No. 101.

Mahmud Abdul-Hadi and Solyman El Hessen to Mr. Wood.

(Translation.)

Le 15 *Ramazan*, 1256.

J'AI fait chercher tous les Chéiks de la montagne de Jérusalem pour leur conseiller de se soumettre au Sultan. Jusqu'à ce jour les Chéiks du côté de Rémy Salem, qui sont Chéik Abdul Hamed, Chéik Mustafa Abrunihareb; et aussi les Chéiks du côté de Bémine, qui sont le Chéik Hassan-ell Hayferris, Chéik Abdul Azig, Chéik Ahmed Abroguide; et je les ai prévenu que le Sultan avait déchu Méhémet Ali du Pachalic d'Egypte, qu'il avait déjà fait marcher

ses troupes tant par terre que par mer pour détruire les troupes du dit rébelle ; et de l'arrivée de Son Altesse Izzet Mohamed Pacha à Beyrout, honoré des commandemens de Saïda, Tripoli, et Généralissime de toute la Syrie, et de la Vice-Royauté du Pachalic d'Egypte ; leur ajoutant les victoires remportées sur l'ennemi Ibrahim Pacha, et la prise de plus de 15,000 hommes de ses troupes, ayant été obligé de fuir lui-même ; que toutes les populations de Saïda, Tripoli, les montagnes, et tous ses environs, comme aussi les montagnes de Naplous, se sont soumis au Sultan, qui a aboli les monopoles établis par Ibrahim Pacha, comme les Ferdés, &c. ; en leur faisant aussi un rapport de la prise d'Acre, qui les a beaucoup étonnés, et que tous ceux qui se soumettraient au Sultan, et qui s'exposeront à rendre des services, auront la parfaite tranquillité et seront armés par son Altesse Izzet Pacha pour se battre contre les troupes Egyptiennes qui sont à leur voisinage, afin de cerner les chemins pour qu'aucune communication n'aie lieu avec l'ennemi. Mon rapport fit une telle impression auprès des susmentionnés Chéiks, qu'ils jurèrent soumission au Sultan, et rendront tous les services en leur pouvoir.

Comme on a déjà représenté à son Altesse Izzet Pacha, lui demandant des armes et munitions pour les habitans de la montagne de Naplous, il est urgent d'envoyer 2,000 fusils de plus de ceux qui ont déjà été demandés, et que ces derniers serviront pour les habitans de la montagne de Jérusalem.

Il est arrivé aujourd'hui le Chéik Sami-el-Adruen, cousin du Chéik Suliman El-Shibly-el-Aduen, qui est le Chéik des Bédouins du Balbec, pour nous prier de vous faire demander un boyourouldi pour leur tranquillité.

J'ajouterai ma prière pour vous demander deux autres boyourouldis, dont l'un pour les Chéiks des Bédouins du Mikellua, qui se nomment Chéik Salil-el-favur et Chéik Sahur-er-Battia ; et le second pour les Chéiks des Bédouins nommés Abad, qui sont Chéik Fendi, le Chéik Kabalan, Chéik Fadil, et le Chéik Mussalt-Isse ; pour leur sûreté et pour battre les troupes qui se trouvent avec le Kaftan Agassi d'Ibrahim Pacha.

(Translation.)

15th Ramazan, 1256.

I HAVE sent for all the Sheiks of the Mountain of Jerusalem to advise them to submit to the Sultan. Up to this day, [I have communicated with] the Sheiks of Remy Salem, who are, Sheik Abdul Hamed, Sheik Mustafa Abrunihareb ; and also the Sheiks of Bemin, who are, the Sheik Hassan-ell Hayferris, Sheik Abdul Azig, Sheik Ahmed Abroguide ; and I have informed them that the Sultan had deprived Mehemet Ali of the Pashalic of Egypt ; that he had already advanced both his land and sea forces to destroy the troops of that rebel ; and that his Highness Izzet Mohamed Pasha had arrived at Beyrout, honoured with the commands of Sidon and Tripoli, of Generalissimo of all Syria, and of the Viceroyalty of the Pashalic of Egypt ; adding the account of the victories gained over the enemy, Ibrahim Pasha, the capture of more than 15,000 of his troops, he himself having been obliged to fly : that all the people of Sidon and Tripoli, the Mountains and their environs, as well as the Mountains of Naplouse, have submitted to the Sultan, who has abolished the monopolies established by Ibrahim Pasha, such as the Ferdehs, &c. ; giving them also an account of the capture of Acre, which greatly astonished them, and informing them that all who should submit to the Sultan, and who will come forward in his service, shall have perfect security, and shall be armed by his Highness Izzet Pasha to fight the Egyptian troops in their vicinity, in order to blockade the roads, that no communication may take place with the enemy. My account had such an effect upon the above-named Sheiks, that they swore submission to the Sultan, and will render all the service in their power.

As a representation has been already made to his Highness Izzet Pasha, asking him for arms and ammunition for the inhabitants of the Mountain of Naplouse, it is urgently necessary to send 2,000 muskets more than those already applied for, and these will serve for the inhabitants of the Mountain of Jerusalem.

The Sheik Sami-el-Adruen, cousin of the Sheik Suliman El-Shibly-el Aduen, who is the Sheik of the Bedouins of Balbec, arrived to-day to beg us to request a boyouruldi for their security.

I shall add a request, and beg of you two other boyouruldis, one for the Sheiks of the Bedouins of Mikellua, who are called Sheik Salil-el-Favur and Sheik Sahur-er-Battia; and the second for the Sheiks of the Bedouins called Abad: these are Sheik Fendi, Sheik Kabalan, Sheik Fadil, and the Sheik Mussalt-Isse; for their security, and in order to fight the troops who are with Ibrahim Pasha's Kaftan Agassi.

Inclosure 8 in No. 101.

Said Abd el Al, Governor of Acre, to Mr. Wood.

(Translation.)

Le 18 *Ramazan*, 1256.

APRES la prise d'Acre j'ai écrit à plusieurs Chefs, parmi lesquels au Chéik Halfi Turkman, qui est une personne de beaucoup d'influence, en le prévenant de cerner les chemins aux troupes Egyptiennes, et de tenter à un petit mouvement vers Damas, et le suppliant de nous mettre au fait des nouvelles de ces parages. Je viens de recevoir la réponse qui me fait savoir, qu'à Mézarib il y a un certain Kaftan Agassi avec 1,000 cavaliers irréguliers, et 800 réguliers, et Mohammed Aga Bashi Bozouk, avec des troupes d'Ibrahim Pacha; en ajoutant qu'il va expédier des lettres pour l'Emir El-Fades (Bédouin) pour le persuader de se rendre du côté du Sultan, ou qu'ils restassent neutres; il m'a assuré aussi que toutes communications avec les provinces attenantes sont empêchées; seulement un seul convoi de provisions parti de Damas, et escorté de 250 cavaliers, a passé. Il ajoute qu'une personne de Lajia nommée Sétan, suivait, croyant que c'était un Chef des Bédouins qui passait. Au contraire, le dit Sétan a réuni des troupes pour la cause du Sultan contre Kaftan Agassi.

Ibrahim Pacha s'est retiré avec ses troupes à Zabedian, et je me fais un devoir de vous le faire savoir.

(Translation.)

18*th Ramazan*, 1256.

AFTER the capture of Acre, I wrote to several Chiefs, and amongst them to the Sheik Halfi Turkman, who is a person of much influence, instructing him to cut off the communication of the Egyptian troops, and to attempt a slight movement in the direction of Damascus, and begging him to keep us informed of the intelligence from that quarter. I have just received an answer, which informs me, that there is one Kaftan Agassi at Mezarib with 1,000 irregular and 800 regular cavalry, and Mohammed Aga Bashi Bozouk with some of Ibrahim Pasha's troops; adding, that he is about to send letters to the Emir El-Fades (Bedouin) to persuade him to side with the Sultan or remain neutral: he has assured me also that all communications with the adjoining provinces are cut off; only one convoy of provisions from Damascus with an escort of 250 cavalry has passed. He adds, that a person of Lajia, by name Setan, followed them, thinking that it was a Chief of Bedouins who was passing. On the other hand, this Setan has assembled troops in the Sultan's cause against Kaftan Agassi.

Ibrahim Pasha has retired with his troops to Zabedian, and I consider it my duty to let you know this circumstance.

Inclosure 9 in No. 101.

Mr. Wood to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Beyrout, November* 19, 1840

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that I returned to Beyrout, on the 15th instant, from the mountains, where I had been to see and commu-

nicate verbally with the Emir Bechir on subjects relating to the present crisis of affairs in the country; as also to collect correct information of the movements of the enemy and their effective force, the positions they occupied, and the communications that were still open to them, and the state of their Commissariat and Supplies.

Ibrahim Pasha's camp at Malaca (a place adjoining Zahlé) is composed of 10,000 Infantry, two squadrons of Lancers (about 1,000 men), and 1,000 Irregular Cavalry. He is intrenched, and he has with him thirteen field-pieces. At Yebdané, a village five hours or leagues from Malaca, there are 2,000 Infantry and 500 Cavalry to guard the road, and at Balbec, four hours from Malaca, 500 Kurdish Cavalry.

Besides the above, he has stationed his Kaftan Agassi (Master of the Wardrobe) in the Haouran, six hours from Damascus, with two battalions of Infantry, 600 Cavalry, and three field-pieces; and his Madjoun Agassi at Mezarib, twelve hours from Katmin, with two battalions of Infantry, and 700 Bedouin Cavalry. At Homs and Hamah there are only four battalions of the Line. The Egyptian forces, therefore, in the South amount to about 14,500 Infantry and 4,500 Cavalry, besides the garrison of Damascus. Ahmed Meneckly Pasha is in the direction of Aleppo with eight battalions of Infantry (if complete, 6,400) and 1,000 Cuirassiers, and a certain Ahmed Bey Ebin Mursaloglu-deb-Hauk has been named Pasha, and sent from the camp to Aleppo to collect, it is said, the troops that are in the North.

If any reliance can be put in the reports lately circulated, the Egyptian forces concentrated in the North, near or at Aleppo, amount to about 15,000 men. It appears to me, however, from the accounts I have received at various periods of the movements of the different regiments, that their numbers are greatly exaggerated; and it is evident, besides, that if Ibrahim Pasha possessed such a force on the frontiers, he would not have had recourse to the hard expedient of abandoning Koulek-Bogas in the Taurus, destroying the works there, and spiking nearly 500 brass cannon.

The Egyptian troops have been withdrawn from Tarsus, Adana, Marash, Aintab, Orfa, and Antioch. The 500 Druse Cavalry that were quartered at Al Boston have deserted to Malatia, and of the three regiments that were retiring from Marash, one fled into the Desert near Aleppo—the other two were prevented, with difficulty, from following their example.

From the annexed approximate Estimate of the Egyptian Army, its actual amount may be fairly stated to vary from 24,000 to 26,000 effective men; but as the Mousteshar Effendi has faithfully promised me to-day that he would incur the expence of sending intelligent emissaries to the North to ascertain both their numbers and their condition, I hope to be able soon to furnish your Lordship with more positive and satisfactory information on this head.

The principal depôts of the Egyptian army are at Damascus and Homs, from whence he procures his supplies, however with great difficulty and risk. He is obliged to detach strong bodies of Cavalry to escort the convoys, to protect them from being captured by the armed mountaineers, who are in possession of some of the passes of Anti-Libanus. Notwithstanding these precautions, only a few days since, a large convoy of 400 mules and camels was captured by the people of the Haouran, who killed 200 of the escort. In revenge, he has sent his Kaftan Agassi into their country to pillage and destroy it, but fortunately they have surrounded him, although they cannot drive him away from his position, which he defends with three pieces of cannon.

The famous Druse warrior Sheik Shibli-el-Argan has joined Ibrahim from Marash with 400 Druse horsemen. Immediately on his arrival, he put himself in communication with the Emir Bechir, whom he begged to procure for him and his men a Boyourouldi from his Excellency Izzet Pasha, promising him and his men their arrears of pay; when he would join us, and bring with him as many of the Egyptian forces as he could entice away. The moment the Emir Bechir apprized me of this circumstance, I lost no time in making the necessary arrangements to secure the co-operation of this Sheik, from whose undoubted courage and known fame I anticipate many valuable services in the cause of the Sultan.

I subjoin an extract from Halil Pasha's letter, which will convey to your Lordship both the panic that has seized the Egyptians, and the expedients to which Ibrahim Pasha has recourse to to intimidate the people, who are more afraid of the Albanians and Irregular troops than of the Nizam.

" Sheriff Pasha has dispersed the band of the 6th Regiment that was at Damascus, and has turned the privates into a body of Irregulars, whom he armed, and sent to a place called Sakra, together with a body of Irregular Cavalry. On some of the fugitives joining them, and informing them that Acre was captured in three hours, praise be to the Almighty, fear came over their hearts, and they fled back to Damascus, where, however, Sheriff punished them, and forced them to return to their aforesaid place. On their march thither, about sixteen of them, officers and privates, ran away to Saïda, and on inquiring of them the state of Ibrahim's army, they answered, 'It is all over with Ibrahim this time: we are only waiting for the appearance of the Sultan's troops, when we will desert. This is our intention, and we are only looking out for some *mélée* or other to afford us an opportunity.'"

I believe this feeling to be universal in the Egyptian Army, and it is not, therefore, surprising if, with such disaffected and disorganized troops, Ibrahim should not dare to move out of his intrenchments, or that he should be obliged to put officers for sentries to prevent desertion at night. Whenever the Sultan's troops are led on, they are sure of victory. It will be the signal for the general dispersion of the Egyptian Army in Syria, the destruction of which I consider inevitable, if advantage be taken in time of the enthusiasm and the spirit that seems to animate the people.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) RICHARD WOOD.

Inclosure 10 in No. 101.

Approximate Estimate of the Egyptian Forces in Syria.

Beyrout, November 19, 1840.

16	Regiments of Infantry, at 3,200 men .	51,200	Effective 32,000
5	Regiments of Regular Cavalry, at 700 men	3,500	„ 3,000
2	Squadrons of Cuirassiers . . .	1,000	„ 1,000
	Irregular Cavalry and Infantry, about .	10,000	„ 10,000
		65,700	46,000

Prisoners and deserters, nearly . .	15,000	
One Regiment that fled to the Desert .	2,000	
Druse Cavalry that fled to Malatia .	500	
Dispersed Syrians and Egyptians, about	2,500	
		20,000
Total of the effective Egyptian forces remaining in Syria		26,000

(Signed) RICHARD WOOD.

No. 102

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 28.)

My Lord, *Paris, December* 25, 1840.

I THIS morning told M. Guizot, that the Baron de Bourqueney, whose attention had been called by your Lordship to that passage of Commodore Napier's letter which states the arrival of a new French Negotiator at Alexandria, had observed that the person to whom that passage alluded must have been M. de Beaufort.

M. Guizot said, this might very possibly be the case; for, at the time he came into office, Captain Beaufort, who had served in the Egyptian Army in Syria, was waiting at Toulon for a passage to Alexandria, charged with instructions from M. Thiers to proceed to Egypt and Syria, for the purpose of reporting to the French Government the state of the war in

Syria, and the result to be expected from the operations of the Allies against the Army of Ibrahim Pasha; and he (M. Guizot) had not interposed to prevent Captain Beaufort from proceeding to execute his instructions.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 103.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received December 31.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, December 8, 1840.*

I RECEIVED on the 6th at night, from Commodore Napier, a copy of the Convention he signed with Boghos Bey at Alexandria, on the 26th of November, 1840, and I immediately communicated it to the Porte and to my Colleagues.

Your Lordship has received the Commodore's report upon the subject, and I have only to acquaint you, that the Sublime Porte has formally declared the Convention to be null and void; and that my Colleagues and myself concur in the declaration; and further, that I have written official letters to Admiral Stopford, to Commodore Napier, Consul Larking at Alexandria, to the officer in command of Her Majesty's ships at Beyrout, to the commanding officer of the British troops in Syria, and to Mr. Consul Moore,—the purport of which is to make known the declaration of the Sublime Porte, and to prevent, as far as may be in my power, the carrying into execution any part of the Convention.

It is unnecessary for me to say, that no Government in the position of the Ottoman Porte could, for one moment, tolerate the assumption by an individual of the right to treat for it with any Power, whether existing *de jure* or *de facto* in the guise of a rebel Power. Her Majesty's Ambassador is wholly unauthorized to recognize the act of an individual unprovided with powers by Her Majesty's Government; and the Ministers of Austria, Prussia, and Russia are equally unauthorized to recognize the acts of a person so circumstanced.

Inclosure 1 in No. 103.

Viscount Ponsonby to Sir Robert Stopford.

Sir, *Therapia, December 7, 1840.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your information, copy of a despatch I have sent to Commodore Napier, wherein you will find my official statement of the fact, that the Sublime Porte has formally protested against a Convention, signed "Charles Napier, Commodore, Boghos Bey," dated from the "Medea" steamer, Alexandria, November 27, 1840; and further, that the Representatives of the Four Allied Powers concur with the Sublime Porte in declaring that Convention null and void *ab initio*, and that Commodore Napier had no authority or right whatsoever to make that Convention.

I beg leave to express my hope, that you may judge it to be expedient to exert your authority, to prevent the said Convention being carried into execution in any degree whatsoever; and that, if it should be in progress of execution, you will order that progress to be completely arrested, and put a stop to, if within your power, however far advanced it may be towards its termination; I mean, that if the troops of Ibrahim should be actually at sea, and on their way to Egypt, you will cause them to be seized and reconducted to the place from whence they may have been taken in Syria, which, we presume, it may be not difficult to do by means of the steamers.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 103.

Viscount Ponsonby to Commodore Napier.

(Extract.) *Therapia, December 7, 1840.*

I HAD the honour last night to receive your communication of a Convention, dated "Medea" steamer, Alexandria, November 27, 1840, signed "Charles Napier, Commodore, Boghos Bey."

I immediately laid that Convention before the Sublime Porte, and acquainted my Colleagues, the Austrian Internuncio, the Prussian Envoy, and the Russian Chargé d'Affaires, with it. It is my duty to acquaint you, that the Sublime Porte has made a formal protest against your acts, declaring, that you have no power or authority whatever to justify what you have done, and that the Convention is null and void.

My Colleagues, above-mentioned, and myself entirely concur with the Sublime Porte.

I have sent copy of this despatch to Admiral the Honourable Sir Robert Stopford, and also to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Inclosure 3 in No. 103.

Viscount Ponsonby to Mr. Consul Larking.

Sir, *Therapia, December 7, 1840.*

I HAVE to acquaint you for your guidance in the discharge of your duties, and for the information of all persons within your Consular jurisdiction, that the Sublime Porte, with the full approbation and concurrence of the Representatives of the Four Allied Powers parties to the Convention of the 15th of July, 1840, has formally protested against, and declared null and void *ab initio*, a Convention, dated from Alexandria the 27th of November, 1840, and signed "Charles Napier, Commodore, Boghos Bey."

You will be pleased to observe, that it is your duty to oppose, to the best of your power, the carrying any part of the aforesaid Convention into effect, inasmuch as it is not based upon any authority whatever.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 4 in No. 103.

Viscount Ponsonby to the Officer commanding the British Naval Forces off Beyrout.

Sir, *Therapia, December 7, 1840.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your information, copy of a despatch I have sent to Commodore Napier, wherein you will find my official statement of the fact, that the Sublime Porte has formally protested against a Convention, signed "Charles Napier, Commodore, Boghos Bey," dated from the "Medea" steamer, Alexandria, November 27th, 1840; and further, that the Representatives of the Four Allied Powers concur with the Sublime Porte in declaring that Convention null and void *ab initio*, and that Commodore Napier had no authority or right to make that Convention.

I beg leave to express my hope that you may judge it to be expedient to exert your authority to prevent the said Convention being carried into execution in any degree whatsoever; and that if it should be in progress of execution, you will order that progress to be completely arrested, and put a stop to, if within your power, however far advanced it may be towards its termination; I mean that if the troops of Ibrahim should be

actually at sea, and on their way to Egypt, you will cause them to be seized and reconducted to the place from whence they may have been taken in Syria, which we presume it may not be difficult to do by means of the steamers.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 5 in No. 103.

Viscount Ponsonby to the Officer commanding the British Military Forces in Syria.

Sir, *Therapia, December* 7, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you officially that the Sublime Porte, having had cognizance of a Convention, signed at Alexandria on the 27th of November, 1840, by Commodore Napier and Boghos Bey, has formally declared that Convention to be null and void *ab initio;* and I have, in consequence, to request you will pay no attention whatever to the provisions it contains, but that you act in the performance of your orders as if you had never been informed of the existence of that Convention, excepting in the case that there may have been a commencement of execution of any part thereof, or some progress made therein, in which case I hope and I presume that you will think it your duty to exert all your authority and all the means at your disposition to stop its progress, or to seize upon any troops that may be on their route in consequence of said Convention, and cause them to be reconducted to that place in Syria from whence they may have been permitted to depart.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 6 in No. 103.

Viscount Ponsonby to Mr. Consul Moore.

Sir, *Therapia, December* 7, 1840.

I HAVE to acquaint you that the Sublime Porte has declared null and void, *ab initio,* a Convention, dated Alexandria, 27th of November, 1840, signed "Charles Napier, Commodore, Boghos Bey."

I beg you will make known to all persons within your Consular jurisdiction the fact I have above stated, and that you will yourself consider that Convention null and void.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 104.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received December* 31.)

My Lord, *Therapia, December* 8, 1840.

AFTER the departure of my preceding despatch, I received the inclosed note from M. Etienne Pisani, which I hasten to transmit to your Lordship, just as it came to my hands, in the hope of being in time for the "Estafette."

I inclose also copy of a despatch sent this day by the Sublime Porte to Chekib Effendi, which I have just received from the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

P.S.—I inclose copy of a note from the Sublime Porte, this moment received, refusing, *ab initio,* Commodore Napier's Convention.

Inclosure 1 in No. 104.

M. Etienne Pisani to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Péra, le* 8 *Décembre,* 1840.

DANS ce moment j'arrive de la Porte, où j'ai rencontré Eyub Pacha, qui vient d'arriver à bord du "Tahri Bahri" avec des dépêches de la part de Sélim Pacha. Il est dit dans ces dépêches, que la Convention signée entre le Commodore Napier et Méhémet Ali a été reçue au camp avec une désapprobation unanime, et qu'on la considérait comme nulle et non avenue tant qu'ils n'avaient des instructions de la part de la Sublime Porte de s'y conformer.

Qu'Ibrahim Pacha avait quitté Zahlé, et qu'il s'était retiré avec toutes ses troupes vers Damas, et même qu'il en avait fait filer une partie vers l'Egypte; mais Sir Charles Smith a fait marcher immédiatement un régiment sur Jérusalem pour tâcher de les empêcher d'effectuer leur retraite.

Alep ainsi que ses environs ont été entièrement évacués par les Egyptiens, et sont maintenant sous l'autorité exclusive de Sa Hautesse.

J'ai l'honneur, &c.,
(Signé) E. J. PISANI.

(Translation.)

My Lord, *Pera, December* 8, 1840.

I HAVE this moment arrived from the Porte, where I met Eyub Pasha, who had just arrived on board the "Tahri Bahri" with despatches from Selim Pasha. It is stated in these despatches, that the Convention signed between Commodore Napier and Mehemet Ali was received in the camp with unanimous disapprobation, and that it was considered null and void as long as no instructions to conform to it were received from the Sublime Porte.

That Ibrahim Pasha had quitted Zahlé, and that he had retired with all his troops towards Damascus, and that he had even caused a part of them to march towards Egypt; but Sir Charles Smith immediately marched a regiment to Jerusalem to endeavour to prevent their effecting their retreat.

Aleppo, as well as its neighbourhood, have been entirely evacuated by the Egyptians, and are now under the exclusive authority of His Highness.

I have the honour, &c.,
(Signed) E. J. PISANI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 104.

Translation of a Despatch addressed by the Sublime Porte to Chekib Effendi at London.

Le 13 *Chewal,* 1256. (*Le* 8 *Décembre,* 1840.)

TOUT le monde a été à même d'apprécier les bonnes intentions et la modération dont la Sublime Porte a fait preuve envers Méhémet Ali, depuis l'avènement au trône de notre Auguste Maître, tout en avisant aux moyens de défendre les droits et les intérêts du trône Impérial. D'une autre part, nul ne peut ignorer les exigences de l'ambition excessive de Méhémet Ali, et son obstination à persister, tant sous le règne de Sultan Mahmoud, que sous le règne actuel, dans des prétentions inadmissibles, et dans les voies qui ont provoqué les événemens qui se sont accomplis récemment; c'est pourquoi il est superflu d'entrer ici dans aucun détail à ce sujet.

Mais indépendamment de sa conduite antérieure, et même après le Traité heureusement conclu entre la Sublime Porte et les Quatre Puissances, Méhémet Ali s'est opiniâtrement maintenu dans son systême de résistance, et loin d'avoir eu recours à la clémence souveraine, il ne s'est occupé que de préparatifs de guerre, sans vouloir tenir aucun compte ni des importantes faveurs qui lui étaient assurées par ce Traité, ni de l'impossibilité absolue de le modifier, et fermant les yeux non seulement sur les avantages personnels qu'il aurait recueillis de son acceptation et sur les conséquences fâcheuses auxquelles il s'exposait par un refus, mais encore sur les nombreux succès qui ont couronné nos opérations en Syrie, et sur les répugnances et le mécontentement qu'ont fait éclater contre lui-même les habitans de l'Egypte.

La Sublime Porte, au contraire, a scrupuleusement conformé tous ses actes aux stipulations du Traité, en prononçant, après s'être concertée avec les Représentans des Quatre Puissances, la destitution de Méhémet Ali, qui lui était imposée par l'obligation de garantir ses intérêts présens et à venir.

Aujourd'hui, et après tout ce qui vient d'être exposé, comment pourrait-on confier de nouveau l'autorité à un homme tel que Méhémet Ali ? Toutefois, et quoique le Sultan n'ait pas l'intention de rien accorder, de sa propre volonté, à Méhémet Ali, néanmoins, en cas d'une demande de la part des Grandes Puissances, il est possible que, par déférence pour elles, quelque faveur temporaire lui soit accordée. Mais serait-il possible aujourd'hui de revenir sur la question de l'hérédité, cette grande concession, déjà rejetée par lui, du Traité d'Alliance ? Et comment les Quatre Puissances pourraient-elles concilier désormais cette concession avec le maintien de l'intégrité de l'Empire Ottoman, qui forme le principal objet de leur sollicitude ?

La Sublime Porte vient de déclarer ses intentions formelles au sujet de l'hérédité, et elle a lieu d'espérer que les Quatre Puissances voudront bien se pénétrer de la vérité des raisons qui précèdent, ainsi que de la justice qui milite en sa faveur, et achever l'œuvre qu'elles ont entreprise et dont la Sublime Porte a déjà recueilli les premiers fruits.

Il est important de faire observer encore que si, d'un côté, les forces de terre et de mer du Pacha, à qui sera confié à l'avenir le gouvernement de l'Egypte, doivent être suffisantes pour la protection du commerce et le maintien de la tranquillité intérieure de la province, elles doivent aussi, de l'autre, pouvoir se concilier avec ses ressources locales, ainsi qu'avec la sûreté intérieure de l'Empire et les nouvelles institutions que Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan y a introduites, et qui devront être également appliquées à l'Egypte, aux termes même du Traité de Londres,—institutions d'après lesquelles les mesures vexatoires exercées jusqu'ici envers les habitans de cette contrée doivent naturellement cesser. C'est pourquoi ce point aussi mérite un examen sérieux.

Vous voudrez bien, M. l'Ambassadeur, porter le contenu de la présente dépêche à la connaissance de Messieurs les Membres de la Conférence.

(Translation.)

13 *Chewal*, 1256 (*December* 8, 1840.)

ALL the world has been able to appreciate the good intentions and the moderation of which the Sublime Porte has given proof, towards Mehemet Ali, since the accession of our August Master to the throne, at the same time that it took means for defending the rights and interests of the Imperial throne. On the other hand, nobody can be ignorant of the exactions, of the excessive ambition of Mehemet Ali, and of his obstinacy in persisting, both under the reign of Sultan Mahmoud, and under the present reign, in inadmissible pretensions, and in the proceedings which have brought on the events which have recently taken place; it is therefore superfluous to enter here into any details upon this subject.

But independently of his previous conduct, and even after the Treaty happily concluded between the Sublime Porte and the Four Powers, Mehemet Ali has obstinately maintained his system of resistance, and far from having had recourse to the Sovereign clemency, he has only employed himself in preparing for war, without at all taking into account the important favours which were secured to him by that Treaty, nor the absolute impossibility of modifying it, and shutting his eyes not only to the personal advantages which he would have derived from his acceptance and the evil consequences to which he exposed himself by a refusal, but also to the numerous successes which have crowned our operations in Syria, and to the dislike and discontent which have broken out against him on the part of the inhabitants of Egypt.

The Sublime Porte, on the contrary, has scrupulously regulated all its actions in conformity with the stipulations of the Treaty, in proclaiming, after concerting with the Representatives of the Four Powers, the deprivation of Mehemet Ali, which was imposed upon it by the necessity of securing its present and future interests.

Now, and after all that has just been stated, how could authority oe again confided to such a man as Mehemet Ali? However, and although the

Sultan has not an intention of granting any thing, of his own accord, to Mehemet Ali, nevertheless, in case of an application on the part of the Great Powers, it is possible that, out of deference to them, some temporary favour may be granted to him. But would it now be possible to return to the question of the hereditary succession, that great concession, already rejected by him, of the Treaty of Alliance? And how could the Four Powers henceforth reconcile that concession with the maintenance of the integrity of the Ottoman Empire, which forms the principal object of their solicitude?

The Sublime Porte has just declared its formal intentions on the subject of the hereditary succession, and it has reason to hope that the Four Powers will be impressed with the truth of the foregoing considerations, as well as with the justice which militates in its favour, and will finish the work which they have undertaken, and of which the Sublime Porte has already reaped the first fruits.

It is important again to observe, that if, on the one hand, the land and sea forces of the Pasha, to whom the Government of Egypt shall be confided for the future, ought to be sufficient for the protection of the commerce and the preservation of the internal tranquillity of the Province, they ought also, on the other hand, to be proportioned to its local resources, as well as to the internal security of the Empire and the new institutions which His Imperial Majesty the Sultan has there introduced, and which must be equally applied to Egypt, according to the very terms of the Treaty of London,—institutions according to which the vexatious measures hitherto practised towards the inhabitants of that country must naturally cease. This point, therefore, also merits a serious examination.

You will have the goodness, M. l'Ambassadeur, to communicate the contents of this despatch to the members of the Conference.

Inclosure 3 in No. 104.

Rechid Pasha to Viscount Ponsonby.

Sublime Porte, le 8 Décembre, 1840.

LA Sublime Porte vient de recevoir une communication de la Convention conclue à Alexandrie, le 27 Novembre dernier, entre le Commodore Napier et Boghos Bey, agissant au nom de Méhémet Ali.

La Sublime Porte ne saurait voir dans cette Convention qu'un Acte dérogatoire, et par le fond, et par la forme, aux droits imprescriptibles, et à la dignité de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, et contraire même à l'esprit et à la lettre de la Convention signée à Londres le 15 Juillet,—Convention qui implique l'accord et le concours de toutes les Puissances signataires pour la validité de toute démarche, mesure ou acte concernant son exécution. Or, la Convention conclue par le Commodore Napier, loin de porter ce caractère d'une décision unanime entre les dites Puissances, et préalablement arrêtée par elles, ne peut et ne doit être considérée que comme un incident isolé, et sans valeur. La Sublime Porte n'a d'ailleurs jamais reçu aucune communication au sujet de l'intention où auraient été les Quatre Puissances, d'après cette même Convention, de recommander à Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan de réintégrer Méhémet Ali dans le Gouvernement de l'Egypte, et surtout de rendre ce gouvernement héréditaire dans sa famille. Elle se croit en outre fondée à penser qu'alors même qu'une pareille recommandation aurait été adressée au Sultan, les Puissances ses Alliés n'auraient pas méconnu le droit de Sa Majesté Impériale de se déterminer sur ce point d'après ses intérêts.

En conséquence, la Sublime Porte déclare protester, comme elle proteste par la présente de la manière la plus formelle, contre la Convention conclue le 27 Novembre, par le Commodore Napier,—Convention qu'elle doit regarder et qu'elle regarde en effet comme nulle et non avenue.

Et c'est aux fins de faire connaître cette décision de la Sublime Porte que le Soussigné, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, a l'ordre d'adresser la présente note à son Excellence M. l'Ambassadeur Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Sa Majesté Britannique.

Le Soussigné profite de cette occasion, pour renouveler à son Excellence l'assurance de sa haute considération.

(Signé) RECHID.

(Translation.)

Sublime Porte, December 8, 1840.

THE Sublime Porte has just received a communication of the Convention concluded at Alexandria, on the 27th of November last, between Commodore Napier and Boghos Bey, acting in the name of Mehemet Ali.

The Sublime Porte can only see in this Convention an Act derogatory, both in spirit and in form, to the imprescriptible rights, and to the dignity of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, and even contrary to the spirit and to the letter of the Convention signed at London on the 15th of July,—a Convention which implies the agreement and concurrence of all the Powers who signed it for the validity of every step, measure, or act, relating to its execution. Now, the Convention concluded by Commodore Napier, far from bearing the character of an unanimous decision between the said Powers, and of one taken by them beforehand, can and ought only to be considered as an isolated incident, and of no value. The Sublime Porte, moreover, has never received any communication on the subject of the intention which the Four Powers had, according to this Convention, of recommending to His Imperial Majesty the Sultan to reinstate Mehemet Ali in the Government of Egypt, and above all, of making that Government hereditary in his family. It considers itself, besides, justified in supposing that if even such a recommendation had been addressed to the Sultan, the Powers, his Allies, would not have lost sight of the right of His Imperial Majesty to decide upon this point according to his interests.

Consequently, the Sublime Porte declares that it protests, as it does protest by the present Note, in the most formal manner, against the Convention concluded, on the 27th of November, by Commodore Napier, a Convention which it must regard, and which it does regard in fact, as null and void.

And it is for the purpose of making known this decision of the Sublime Porte, that the Undersigned, Minister for Foreign Affairs, is instructed to address the present Note to his Excellency the Ambassador Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Her Britannic Majesty.

The Undersigned avails himself of this opportunity to renew to his Excellency the assurance of his high consideration.

(Signed) RECHID.

No. 105.

Major-General Sir C. F. Smith to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 5, 1841.)

Head-Quarters—Army of Syria,
My Lord, *Beyrout, November* 24, 1840.

I HAVE great satisfaction in acquainting your Lordship that a prudent adherence to my instructions from the Foreign Office has struck a heavier blow on the army of Ibrahim Pasha than a series of general actions could have achieved. Each succeeding victory could only have withdrawn us so much farther from our resources, without advancing, in any degree, the cause we have in hand. I take not merit to myself, unless it be for my forbearance. For the number and the nature of the troops under my command, and the extended line of coast I have to guard, compelled me to be strictly on the defensive in the towns already in our possession, whilst a forward movement would have been unmilitary and unmeaning.

Wearied in waiting for an opportunity of practising his well-disciplined cavalry and artillery upon a detachment of Turkish infantry; Ibrahim, on the 21st instant, broke up from Zahle and Malaca in full retreat on Damascus, where he now is with 30,000 men, including 7,000 cavalry and artillery. He has pushed a corps of 3,000 irregular cavalry to El Mezerib, on the road towards Mecca,—the only route now open to him for a final retreat into Egypt,—whither I calculate on his going the moment he receives from Alexandria the political news brought by the Oriental.

In as ar as regards the sway of Mehemet Ali in Syria, I look upon the military part of the question as determined.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) C. F. SMITH,
Major-General, Commanding.

P.S.—The Emir Effendi and other chiefs who left Ibrahim near Damascus, report his force to exceed 50,000, of whom 40,000 are said to be effective. C. F. S.

No. 106.

Major-General Sir C. F. Smith to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 5, 1841.)

My Lord, *Head-Quarters, Beyrout, November 29, 1840.*

THE information from Damascus, under date of the 26th instant, received this morning, is to the effect that the troops from Aleppo had commenced their retreat from the first named city towards El Mezerib. Ibrahim Pasha had ordered all his Secretaries to be in readiness to depart with him by the same route, and the whole of the force under his command had moved, or was in order of march.

Thus I may be permitted to congratulate your Lordship on the termination of the campaign in Syria.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) C. F. SMITH,
Major-General Commanding.

No. 107.

Major-General Sir C. F. Smith to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 10, 1841.

(Extract.) *Beyrout, December 6, 1840.*

I HAVE to announce to your Lordship that a courier from Alexandria has stopped the progress of the Egyptian Army in retreat,—and that Ibrahim Pasha, by intelligence of the 2d instant from Damascus, had returned to the city with an intention of quartering his whole force within the walls, wisely preferring, to the hazard of a retreat through the Desert, the guarantee of the Convention for embarking all he possesses (plunder as well as military stores) at the points we hold upon the coast,—such stipulation having been made clear, to his understanding, as being binding on the Allies. The contrary, however, being the fact, he will now find himself (accidentally as it were) master of a strong hold, in the heart of Syria, of which he had been virtually, if not totally, bereaved.

No. 108.

Mr. Consul Larking to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 1, 1841.)

My Lord, *Alexandria, December 6, 1840.*

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that on the 28th ultimo, Commodore Napier despatched the "Medea" steam frigate to Admiral Sir Robert Stopford, with the intelligence of the Convention he had concluded with Mehemet Ali on the basis stated in my last despatch to your Lordship.

On the same day, Commodore Napier, with the ships under his command, quitted the coast—in consequence, I presume, of the stormy state of the weather.

Since that period, no event of any importance has occurred, and Egypt is tranquil.

I have the honour to inclose a translation of the circular letter of Mehemet Ali to the Authorities of Egypt, announcing the restoration of peace.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN W. LARKING.

Inclosure in No. 108.

Circular of Mehemet Ali to the Mudirs and Governors of Egypt.

(Translation.)

AS chance entirely rules the world, peaceable preparations sometimes terminate in war, and warlike preparations sometimes terminate in peace. From the Creation to the present time, such has been the case. The will of God is the great first cause, and the end of all things. God is all powerful.

The stars were from the beginning unfavourable to my late efforts, until the Commodore of the Fleet of Her Britannic Majesty arrived, and announced that the Government of Egypt was to be hereditary in my family for the sake of peace. The European Powers have thus determined. Peace is the object of all Governments, and these things have happened to bring back repose, to stop the effusion of Mussulman blood, to satisfy the minds of the people, and allow all to return to their habitual pursuits of commerce or agriculture.

With this view, the Commander-in-Chief of the forces in Syria has been ordered to retire from that country, and return to Egypt with all his camp, and the slaves of Egypt.

A copy of this letter has been sent to all Governors in Egypt, as well as to you.

No. 109.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 5.)

My Lord, *Paris, January 1, 1841.*

I ACCIDENTALLY met M. Guizot this evening. He mentioned to me, that he had written three days ago a despatch to Baron Bourqueney, in which he had fully explained the feelings and sentiments of the French Government upon the actual state of affairs in the East. The question between the Sultan and Mehemet Ali, he said, had been concluded by the Four Powers without the interference of France, and if any points still remained to be settled respecting the future condition of the Pasha of Egypt, the French Government desired not to be a party to the settlement. The position of the Ottoman Empire relative to the European Powers was however a different question; and one on which, though he was prepared to make no proposition, the French Government would be disposed to enter into consultation with the other Governments who were interested in maintaining its independence and neutrality. The security of the Christian population of Syria was also a subject well worthy the consideration of the European Powers, and the French Government would be ready, in concert with the other Allies of the Porte, to consider of the means best calculated to obtain that object. I have only time left, before the departure of the messenger to-night, to make this short and hasty report of M. Guizot's conversation.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 110.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 5, 1841.)

My Lord, *Therapia, December 9, 1840.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship, copy of a note which I have received from his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs, announcing that His Imperial Majesty the Sultan has given orders that the blockade of the ports and échelles of Syria should be raised.

I also inclose copy of my letter to Her Majesty's Consul-General on this subject.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 110.

Rechid Pasha to Viscount Ponsonby.

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, *Sublime Porte, le* 2 *Décembre*, 1840.

J'AI l'honneur de vous informer, qu'en conséquence de l'occupation définitive par les troupes Ottomanes du littoral de la Syrie, Sa Majesté le Sultan vient d'ordonner la levée du blocus des ports et échelles de ce littoral.

Recevez, &c.,
(Signé) RECHID.

(Translation.)

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, *Sublime Porte, December* 2, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that in consequence of the definitive occupation of the coast of Syria by the Ottoman troops, His Majesty the Sultan has ordered that the blockade of the ports and stations of that coast should be raised.

Receive, &c.,
(Signed) RECHID.

Inclosure 2 in No. 110.

Viscount Ponsonby to Mr. Cartwright.

Sir, *Therapia, December* 5, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to request that you will make known to the British merchants, that I have received from his Excellency the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs an official notification, under date the 2nd instant, stating, that in consequence of the definitive occupation of the coast of Syria by the troops of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, the Sublime Porte has ordered the blockade of the ports and échelles of that coast to be raised.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 111.

The Marquess of Clanricarde to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 6, 1841.)

(Extract.) *St. Petersburgh, December* 22, 1840.

I YESTERDAY visited Count Nesselrode, who read to me the heads of the arrangement which your Lordship desired should be adopted, and signed by the Four Powers, and by France, to which, he said, he had not the slightest objection. His Excellency further said, that France ought to sign it, in accordance with the Collective Note presented to the Sultan, and that he trusted she would demand no more. Count Nesselrode expressed great gratification at the sentiments he understands your Lordship to entertain upon the idea of a general guarantee of the integrity of Turkey; and he said that he hoped the honours that the Emperor had conferred upon the Archduke Frederick, Admiral Sir Robert Stopford, and Commodore Napier, would show how entirely absent from the mind of His Imperial Majesty was any feeling of jealousy at the success of the Allied arms without the assistance of a Russian force.

No. 112.

Count Nesselrode to Baron Brunnow.—(Communicated by Baron Brunnow, January 7, 1841.)

(Extract.) *St. Pétersbourg, le* $\frac{10}{22}$ *Décembre*, 1840.

JE me hâte de répondre à l'expédition que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'adresser en date du $\frac{27 \text{ Nov.}}{9 \text{ Dec.}}$, et dont l'arrivée ici avait été presque immédiatement précédée par celle des rapports que vous aviez confiés au

Marquis de Clanricarde. Avant de m'expliquer plus en détail sur le principal objet de cette expédition, mon premier besoin, M. le Baron, est de vous faire part de la vive satisfaction avec laquelle l'Empereur a accueilli l'heureuse nouvelle de la soumission de Méhémet Ali. Le Traité de Londres a enfin été exécuté en dépit de toute opposition. Il l'a été dans sa plus rigoureuse étendue, et cela sans qu'il en ait coûté aux Puissances signataires aucun compromis, aucune concession regrettables. Il n'est pas jusqu'aux démonstrations armées dont l'Escadre Britannique a accompagné sa sommation à Alexandrie, qui n'impriment à son résultat un caractère plus favorable encore à la considération de l'Alliance. Veuillez-bien, M. le Baron, offrir à Lord Palmerston nos félicitations sincères de ce dénouement, que nous envisageons comme un commun triomphe de sa politique et de la nôtre.

La Question d'Orient ainsi réglée, reste maintenant à en consacrer et à en consolider la solution par une transaction finale à laquelle concourrait la France. Vous avez déjà été éventuellement mis au fait des vues et des intentions qu'entretient à ce sujet notre auguste Maître. A plus forte raison, l'Empereur sera-t-il disposé à admettre le plan que vous a proposé Lord Palmerston, puisqu'il simplifie encore davantage l'Acte qu'il s'agit de conclure. Sa Majesté n'a donc pu qu'approuver le motif qui porte Lord Palmerston à désirer que les détails de l'arrangement spécial en vertu duquel le Sultan accordera à Méhémet Ali l'investiture de l'Egypte, ne soient point incorporés dans le texte même de la transaction. D'après cela, M. le Baron, si les bases de la transaction projetée restent telles que le Principal Secrétaire d'Etat vous les a exposées, et si le Gouvernement Français se décide à l'accepter, l'Empereur vous autoriserait à y concourir pour votre part.

(Translation.)

(Extract.) *St. Petersburgh, December* $\frac{10}{22}$, 1840.

I HASTEN to reply to the despatch which your Excellency has done me the honour to address to me under date of the $\frac{27\text{th Nov.}}{9\text{th Dec.}}$, and the arrival of which was almost immediately preceded by that of the reports which you entrusted to the Marquis of Clanricarde. Before entering further into detail upon the principal subject of that despatch, my first desire, M. le Baron, is to communicate to you the lively satisfaction with which the Emperor received the happy intelligence of the submission of Mehemet Ali. The Treaty of London has at last been executed in spite of all opposition. It has been so to its fullest extent, and that without having cost the Powers who were Parties to it any compromise, or any concession to be regretted. There is nothing, even including the armed demonstration with which the British squadron accompanied its summons at Alexandria, which has not stamped its result with a character still more favourable to the consideration of the Alliance. Have the goodness, M. le Baron, to offer our sincere congratulations to Lord Palmerston upon this result, which we consider as a common triumph of his and of our policy.

The Eastern Question thus settled, it now remains to record and confirm the solution thereof by a final transaction in which France should concur. You have already, in anticipation of this event, been put in possession of the views and intentions which our august Master entertains upon this subject. Much more will the Emperor be disposed to accede to the plan which Lord Palmerston has proposed to you, because it simplifies still further the transaction which is to be concluded. His Majesty, then, could not but approve the motive which leads Lord Palmerston to desire that the details of the special arrangement, by virtue of which the Sultan shall grant to Mehemet Ali the investiture of Egypt, should not be embodied in the text of the agreement. Accordingly, M. le Baron, if the bases of the proposed agreement should be such as have been stated to you by the Principal Secretary of State, and if the French Government should decide upon accepting it, the Emperor would authorize you to concur in it.

No. 113.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Clanricarde.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, January* 11, 1841.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 22nd of December, reporting the language held by Count Nesselrode respecting the Turco-Egyptian Question, in an interview which you had with his Excellency on the preceding day; and I have to instruct your Excellency to assure the Russian Government that the honours which the Emperor has conferred upon the British naval officers employed in the recent operations in the Levant, have been the source of extreme gratification to Her Majesty's Government, as affording a striking proof of the friendly feelings of the Emperor towards England, and as being a public manifestation of the cordiality with which the Emperor has co-operated with Her Majesty in the execution of the Treaty of July.

Your Excellency will also say, that Her Majesty's Government appreciate very highly the sound judgment with which the Emperor has acted in the whole of these transactions; for there cannot be a doubt that the powerful naval and military force, which the Emperor has kept in reserve to be ready to act in case of need, has essentially contributed to the successful result which has been obtained; while the circumstance that those forces have been kept in reserve, and have not prematurely been brought into action, has prevented some political difficulties which might otherwise by possibility have arisen.

No. 114.

Sir John Barrow to Lord Leveson.—(*Received January* 15.)

My Lord, *Admiralty, January* 11, 1841.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Viscount Palmerston, copies of a letter from Admiral the Honourable Sir Robert Stopford, dated the 1st of December last, and its inclosures, relative to the Convention entered into with Mehemet Ali by Commodore Sir Charles Napier.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN BARROW.

Inclosure 1 in No. 114.

Admiral Stopford to R. More O'Ferrall, Esq.

"Princess Charlotte," St. George's Bay, Beyrout, December 1, 1840.

Sir,

I BEG to transmit for their Lordships' information the copy of a Convention, which Commodore Napier has entered into with Mehemet Ali, the correspondence leading thereto having been transmitted by him from Alexandria.

I beg you will further acquaint their Lordships, that I do not feel myself authorized to enter into this Convention; and the Egyptian troops being already on their retreat by the Mecca road to Egypt, I cannot consider this as a concession from Mehemet, but the consequence of their late discomfitures, and the inimical state of the country towards them.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) ROBERT STOPFORD.

Admiral.

Inclosure 2 in No. 114.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 90.]

No. 115.

Sir John Barrow to Lord Leveson.—(*Received January* 16.)

My Lord, *Admiralty, January* 16, 1841.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, to be laid before Viscount Palmerston, copies of two letters from Admiral Sir Robert Stopford, dated at Marmorice the 14th of last month; the first transmitting the report from Captain Fanshawe, who was sent to negotiate with Mehemet Ali, of his proceedings on that service, with a copy of the engagement entered into by the latter, and other papers; the second transmitting a copy of Commodore Napier's reply to a letter from the Admiral upon the subject of the unauthorized Convention concluded by the Commodore.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN BARROW.

Inclosure 1 in No. 115.

Admiral Stopford to R. More O'Ferrall Esq.

"Princess Charlotte,"
Sir, *Marmorice, December* 14, 1840.

WITH reference to my letter of the 10th instant, I beg you will be pleased to acquaint their Lordships, that Captain Fanshawe arrived here this morning in the "Megæra" from Alexandria, with the written engagement by Mehemet Ali, a translation of which I inclose herewith, as well as of that officer's report to me of his proceedings on the service upon which he was ordered; and I have immediately despatched him in the "Stromboli," to Constantinople, in the further fulfilment of Viscount Palmerston's instructions.

I hope their Lordships will agree with me, that Captain Fanshawe has shown great judgment and firmness in his proceedings in this important negotiation.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) ROBERT STOPFORD,
Admiral.

Inclosure 2 in No. 115.

Captain Fanshawe to Admiral Stopford.

Her Majesty's Steam Vessel "Megæra," at Sea,
Sir, *December* 12, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to report to you my proceedings in the service on which you ordered me.

I arrived off Alexandria in this vessel early on the morning of the 8th, and finding no English man-of-war off the place, proceeded into the port, and sent for Mr. Larking, Her Majesty's Consul, whom I requested to inform Mehemet Ali that I was charged by you to make a communication to him from Her Majesty's Government, and for which purpose I demanded an interview with him in the presence of Boghos Bey.

At noon I went to the Palace with Mr. Larking, and had an audience with Mehemet Ali: after delivering your letter to him and passing a few compliments, I read to him my extract,* a copy of which I inclose, from

* Inclosure 3 in No. 124.

Lord Palmerston's instructions, which was interpreted to him by his Dragoman, and then presented to him, expressing my hope that his compliance with what it required, would restore a good understanding between the Sultan and himself. He alluded to the recent Convention, and said he had promised all this before to Commodore Napier, if Egypt was guaranteed to him, and that he never departed from his word.

I replied, I had no guarantee to offer; but he would perceive that, though you had not been able to ratify that Convention, you had lost no time in communicating the instructions received from your Government, and in expressing your own disposition to conciliate; and that I hoped he would merit the wish which I knew you had expressed, and take some immediate steps for the restitution of the Turkish fleet, which I regretted to observe was making no preparation for sea; that the words in my note with reference to the fleet were "immediate," and "without delay;" and I was sure his giving directions for that part of it which could be most expeditiously equipped proceeding to you at Marmorice, would be regarded in a favourable light, both at London and at Constantinople.

Mehemet Ali said earnestly, he had always wished to give the fleet up to his master; that I might pledge myself that it should be ready to deliver to me, or to any officer that might be sent by the Porte to take charge of it, and that he would send his own officers and men to assist in navigating it, if he was reinstated in Egypt; adding, if I give up the fleet, what security have I, having already given orders for the evacuation of all the places referred to?

I told him he must look for his security in the good faith and friendly disposition of the English Government, and in the influence it might have with the Sultan and the Allied Powers. He seemed rather disposed to yield on this point, but gave no positive answer. I then stated that my time was limited; he said he had no wish for delay. The documents which I had given him should be forthwith translated, and brought again under his consideration, and that I should have his answer in French to take to you as soon as possible. I replied, I was authorized to take his final answer to Constantinople, and that I must be furnished with his written engagement to convey thither; and as I concluded it would be written in Turkish, I must have a translation of it also, that I might be satisfied it contained all that was required. This was immediately assented to, Mehemet Ali saying, he was always ready to make his submission to the Sultan, and that he would promise all that was asked, if he was allowed to remain quiet in Egypt. This ended the conference.

In the evening, Mr. Larking and myself had an interview by appointment with Boghos Bey, who said it was Mehemet Ali's desire to meet the views of the Allied Powers, and that he was pleased with the English mediation, but that he considered that he had already the promise of the hereditary government of Egypt, and he was afraid there would be difficulties raised at Constantinople, and that there was one Power (Russia) not so well disposed to see such a termination to the Question. I told Boghos Bey, that he must be aware the Allied Powers could not regard Mehemet Ali since his deposition by the Sultan in the same light as before, and that he must make his submission; and that I was sure, if he would without delay send such part of the Turkish fleet as could be got ready to Marmorice, it must tend to conciliate all parties, and be a proof of the entire sincerity of his intentions.

I then called his attention to the limit of my stay at Alexandria, and to the necessity that the written engagement I was to receive should be so worded that I could not hesitate to convey it. Boghos assured me he would use his influence to prevent any obstacle; that he was to attend a Council with Mehemet Ali directly, at which the translated copies would be discussed and the answer decided upon, which he thought would be quite satisfactory. This Council, however, I learnt was not so harmonious as Boghos Bey expected, and nothing was then decided. On the following morning (Wednesday) Mr. Larking received a summons, and had an interview with Mehemet Ali and Boghos Bey, which was more favourable; and I was informed I might expect a translation of the engagement early on the following day, and that it would contain all that was asked; but

Mr. Larking did not find Mehemet Ali disposed to let any part of the fleet go first,—a point which I had requested him to urge again, saying, they all came, and should all go together. I did not, however, receive the translations of the letters to the Vizier and yourself, which I now inclose, until ten o'clock yesterday morning, but then accompanied by a notice that Mehemet Ali was ready to receive me. On perusing the letter to the Vizier, it appeared to me to be so complete an engagement, in all points required, without any especial stipulation about Egypt, and that though the terms of submission might be somewhat equivocal, it came within the view of Lord Palmerston's instructions, and that I could not hesitate to be the bearer of it. I therefore repaired to the Palace with Mr. Larking, and had, I consider, a satisfactory interview with Mehemet Ali. I pointed out to him that I did not feel that the expressions in his letter to the Vizier, relating to the fleet, came up to the promise which he had made me the other day, and that I saw no appearance yet of preparation, and that I or some one else might return very soon to claim the fulfilment of that pledge. Mehemet Ali said he had given orders already on the subject, and repeated earnestly that the fleet should be ready to quit the port, as far as he was concerned, five days after the arrival of the officer to whom the Sultan wished it to be delivered.

I then remarked that on the subject of Candia there might be some delay, as I understood the Pasha there had not submitted to the Sultan; and as I thought it probable the Porte might be prepared to send troops immediately to take possession of that island, I proposed that I should be the bearer of a letter to the Pasha of Candia, directing him to yield it to the Turkish Authorities; to which Mehemet Ali immediately assented, and ordered one to be written. I hope these points, therefore, may be taken as an earnest of his sincerity, though I am quite of opinion, that unless the Sultan gives him the hereditary Pashalic of Egypt, he will be very much disposed to fight for it—or, at any rate, to give further trouble. This letter to the Pasha of Candia being ready, I received it with those to the Vizier and yourself (all which I herewith transmit), all under flying seals, from Mehemet Ali's hands, and took my leave of him. Boghos Bey then requested to speak with me on one or two subjects, by Mehemet Ali's desire, which were—1st. His wish to be allowed to send some of his steam-vessels to Gaza or El-Arish to receive the sick, wounded, women and children of Ibrahim Pasha's army who might be entering Egypt by that route, and who would be thus spared a painful and tedious march, saying that Commodore Napier's Treaty embraced that subject. I replied, that though you had not been able to confirm the Commodore's Convention, you would, I was sure, for the cause of humanity, be now ready to meet Mehemet Ali's wish, and that I would communicate with the senior officer of our ships off the port on the subject, who would allow vessels, going strictly for that purpose, to pass freely. 2ndly. That in case of any of our ships of war coming to the port, the commanders should be desired to conform rigidly to the Quarantine regulations. I told him they always had, and always would do so, and reminded him of the Quarantine you had passed yourself in August, and said that whatever our Consul told the captains was required by the regulations of the port would be abided by; for Mr. Larking had an idea that they might contemplate some new regulations which might affect the ships or officers to be sent down for the Turkish fleet.

At 1 P.M. yesterday we sailed from Alexandria, and off the port communicated with Her Majesty's ship "Carysfort," and I delivered to Captain Martin two letters (copies of which I inclose) which I had thought it right to address to the senior officer of Her Majesty's ships off Alexandria, and of which I hope you will approve; we are now proceeding to join your flag at Marmorice.

I cannot close this report, without expressing how much I benefited by Mr. Larking's ready and cordial assistance, and by the information I was able to obtain from him, and also from the zeal and attention of Mr. John Chumarian, the Dragoman.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) ARTHUR FANSHAWE,

Captain.

P.S.—We left the "Ambuscade," small French frigate, a corvette, and team-vessel at Alexandria; the latter, I understand, was to start for France to-day; the "Bourgainville," brig, sailed for Beyrout the day of our arrival.

Inclosure 3 in No. 115.

Free Translation of a Letter from Mehemet Ali to the Grand Vizier.

[For a correct Translation of this letter, see Inclosure 1 in No. 113.]

Inclosure 4 in No. 115.

Translation of Mehemet Ali's Letter to Mustapha Pasha of Candia.

[For a correct Translation of this letter, see Inclosure 2 in No. 113.]

Inclosure 5 in No. 115.

Mehemet Ali to Sir Robert Stopford.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 116.]

Inclosure 6 in No. 115.

Admiral Stopford to R. More O'Ferrall, Esq.

"Princess Charlotte,"
Marmorice, December 14, 1840.

Sir,

I TRANSMIT herewith Commodore Napier's reply to my letter to him, disapproving of the unauthorized Convention he had made with Mehemet Ali, in explanation of his motives for so doing.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) ROBERT STOPFORD,
Admiral.

Inclosure 7 in No. 115.

Commodore Napier to Admiral Stopford.

Her Majesty's ship "Powerful,"
Marmorice, December 14, 1840.

Sir,

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd of December, disapproving of the Convention I had entered into with the Egyptian Government for the evacuation of Syria and the surrender of the fleet. I have only to regret, that what I did with the best intentions, and believed to be in accordance with the views of the Allies, should not have met your approbation.

I beg to assure you, that it was not from any want of respect to you that I did not communicate with you before signing it, but it was under the impression that it was of the utmost importance to seize the oppor-

tunity, when the Pasha was highly incensed against France, to bring him, without loss of time, to terms without the mediation of that Power.

I have also to acknowledge the receipt of the copy of a letter you have sent me from Lord Ponsonby, the original of which, I presume, is gone to Alexandria, and I beg to inclose you a copy of my reply.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) CHARLES NAPIER,
Commodore.

No. 116.

Mr. Consul Larking to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 8, 1841.)

My Lord, *Alexandria, December* 22, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship, that on the 8th instant, Captain Fanshawe, of Her Majesty's ship "Princess Charlotte," arrived here.

He brought me a letter from Admiral Sir Robert Stopford, in which he requested me to assist Captain Fanshawe in obtaining the object of his mission by all the means in my power.

By the same opportunity I learnt with no little surprise, that the arrangement so lately entered into by Commodore Napier, was totally unauthorised either by the Commander-in-chief, or Her Majesty's Government, and that, consequently, the Convention signed by the Commodore was null and void.

I regret exceedingly that under such circumstances I should have been instrumental in aiding Commodore Napier, but I trust your Lordship will overlook any irregularity on my part in having lent myself to forward his views, when I assure your Lordship that I did so, under the firm conviction that the Commodore was duly authorised to treat with Mehemet Ali, and that it was my duty to assist him.

At the desire of Captain Fanshawe, I waited on Mehemet Ali, announced his arrival, explained the nature of his mission, and requested him to name an hour for receiving that officer. Mehemet Ali appeared surprised, and at first objected to conferences with Captain Fanshawe, stating that he had accepted the proposals of Commodore Napier in good faith, and in full reliance on his powers, seeing that he was at the head of a squadron which might be brought at any time to act against him; the Convention he had concluded with him being a sufficient proof of his submission to the Sultan, and of his desire to meet the views of the Four Powers. He stated, however, that he should be happy to see Captain Fanshawe, and named 12 o'clock on the same day for the interview, at which hour that officer waited on him accompanied by myself.

Captain Fanshawe then read his Instructions, with extracts of a despatch from your Lordship to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, (copies of which he furnished to Boghos Bey,) and laid great stress on the immediate and unconditional restitution of the Ottoman Fleet, or even of some ships, as an earnest of his submission to his Sovereign the Sultan.

To this Mehemet Ali answered in general terms, and stated that he had always intended to restore the fleet, but that he should cause the documents immediately to be translated, and having taken the subject into consideration, would give his answer on the following evening.

On the same day Mehemet Ali called a council, and having described the nature of Captain Fanshawe's mission, he expressed great unwillingness to re-open negotiations which he considered closed, and in this feeling he was warmly supported by Artin Bey.

On the following day I saw Boghos Bey, and urged him to use his influence with Mehemet Ali to wave all tenacious adherence to the Convention of Commodore Napier, and make such immediate concession as would strengthen those claims on the moderation of the Sultan, which he considered he had acquired by his assent to the proposals of that officer. Boghos Bey in reply stated, that he lay under great difficulty in this

respect, as he had to contend with the unfavourable predisposition with which Mehemet Ali was imbued, in finding the arrangement he had made with Commodore Napier so soon nullified; but that nevertheless he would do his best to induce him to accede to the conditions of Captain Fanshawe; and concluded by engaging me to accompany him on the following day to Mehemet Ali, which I accordingly did.

Mehemet Ali, at this second interview, repeated the expression of his surprise that an engagement just concluded should be considered invalid, and that he saw no termination to a negotiation which every day led to fresh demands. I replied that no one could more deeply regret than I did, having been a party in advising him to accept the conditions offered by Commodore Napier, for which, as it appeared in the sequel, he did not possess adequate authority; but that he must be aware that the recommendation of Her Majesty's Government was in spirit nearly resembling that which led to the arrangement that had been entered into with Commodore Napier, and merely engaged him promptly to execute those measures which he had repeatedly declared it was his intention to adopt. To this Mehemet Ali replied, that the present recommendation was different, inasmuch as that by the former arrangement his position was secured, whereas by this he was entirely at the mercy of the Sultan.

I then said that for the Four Powers to guarantee him the Pashalic of Egypt, would be an act inconsistent with that independence of Turkey which it was the main object of the Alliance to secure; but that he might rest assured that any recommendation founded on his prompt and unconditional compliance with the wishes of the Four Powers, would unquestionably have its due effect with the Sublime Porte, and infallibly lead to that formal guarantee for which he appeared so solicitous.

Mehemet Ali then said that with regard to Captain Fanshawe's proposal that he should deliver up a portion of the fleet, that would be a half measure, and might be construed into a desire to procrastinate that unconditional surrender of the fleet which would take place as soon as he received an order from the Sultan stating to whom he was to deliver it over. That he submitted himself to the will of the Sultan, and threw himself on his generosity. As regarded the evacuation of Syria, it had already taken place, and as regarded Candia and the Holy Cities, he was prepared to address a letter to the Grand Vizier, in accordance with what was required of him.

I reported this to Captain Fanshawe, who said that this answer was not in the form he expected, or according to the letter of his instructions; that he would however be satisfied, and be the bearer of a letter to the Vizier if conformable to the above declaration.

This letter, as well as one to Admiral Sir Robert Stopford, of both of which I have the honour to inclose translations, were prepared and delivered to Captain Fanshawe, along with an order to the Commander of the Egyptian troops in Candia, immediately to effect the evacuation of that Island.

Captain Fanshawe took his departure from hence for Marmorice, on the 12th instant, in Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Megæra."

I have, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN W. LARKING.

Inclosure 3 in No. 116.

[See Inclosure 1 in No. 126.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 116.

Mehemet Ali to Sir Robert Stopford.

(Traduction.)

Très-honorable Amiral Sir Robert Stopford,

J'AI reçu les deux lettres que vous m'avez adressées, la première par l'entremise de Hamid Bey, qui avait été chargé d'une dépêche pour mon fils Ibrahim Pacha, et la seconde par le Commandant Fanshawe, Capitaine de votre Vaisseau Amiral. Je suis charmé de l'amitié que vous me témoignez, et m'empresse d'agir dans le sens que vous m'indiquez dans votre dépêche officielle. J'adresse en conséquence un placet sous cachet volant à la Sublime Porte, et pour que le contenu vous en soit connu j'y joins la traduction en Français. J'espère que ma condescendance sera appréciée par les Puissances Alliées, et en vous demandant la continuation de votre amitié, je me flatte que vos bons offices m'assureront leur bienveillance.

(Signé) MEHEMET ALI.

(Translation.)

Most Honourable Admiral Sir Robert Stopford,

I HAVE received the two letters which you addressed to me, the first by the channel of Hamid Bey, who had been entrusted with a despatch for my son Ibrahim Pasha, and the second by Captain Fanshawe, of your flag-ship. I am delighted with the friendship which you evince towards me, and I hasten to act in the sense which you point out in your official despatch. I consequently address a petition to the Sublime Porte under flying seal, and in order that the contents thereof may be known to you, I add a French translation to it. I hope that my compliance will be appreciated by the Allied Powers, and in asking a continuance of your friendship, I flatter myself that your good offices will ensure me their goodwill.

(Signed) MEHEMET ALI.

No. 117.

Mr. Consul Larking to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 8, 1841.)

My Lord, *Alexandria, December* 22, 1840.

HAVING received intelligence that partial disorders had broken out in Mount Lebanon, which were attributed to the presence of Ibrahim Pasha at Damascus, I informed Boghos Bey of the fact, which led to Mehemet Ali addressing a letter to Sir Robert Stopford on the subject.

A letter which I wrote to Sir Robert Stopford, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, will acquaint your Lordship with all that passed.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN W. LARKING.

Inclosure in No. 117.

Mr. Consul Larking to Sir Robert Stopford.

Sir, *Alexandria, December* 21, 1840.

BY Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Hydra," which arrived here on the 17th instant, I learnt that Ibrahim Pasha had not evacuated Syria, and that on the 7th December the Egyptian troops were still at Damascus, although it was supposed they were on the point of leaving that city.

As this state of affairs is totally at variance with the information your Excellency had given to Mehemet Ali, and in contradiction to the declaration he had lately made to the Vizier, that Syria was already evacuated; I lost no time in calling the attention of Boghos Bey to the fact, urging him to use his influence with Mehemet Ali, to induce him to forward to your Excellency an order to Ibrahim Pasha for the immediate and unconditional evacuation. I pointed out to him the certainty of a stop being put to negotiations at Constantinople, so soon as the news arrived that Ibrahim Pasha was still at Damascus, after his father's formal declaration to the contrary, and that if any collision should unfortunately take place between the Turkish and Egyptian forces, it might be attributed to a desire on the part of Ibrahim Pasha still to avail himself of the chances of war, and that such a supposition, although it might be erroneous, must prove most disadvantageous to the interests of Mehemet Ali.

Boghos Bey assured me that no such views were entertained by Mehemet Ali after the solemn declaration he had made, but that I was aware that for a considerable time Mehemet Ali had had no communication with his son, and that the only intelligence he had had of the movements of his army, was contained in a letter from your Excellency by which he was led to suppose that the evacuation was not only commenced, but completed. I replied that this assurance must have been given in the full persuasion of its correctness, but I remarked, that so soon as your Excellency would hear that it had not taken place, you would be the first to demand an order for the immediate and unconditional evacuation of Syria, and this order being promptly and spontaneously given, would be interpreted into a desire on the part of Mehemet Ali to remove all difficulties on the subject. I made use of other arguments, all of which Boghos Bey requested me to put in writing, in order that he might submit the same for the consideration of Mehemet Ali.

I did this, and on the following day received a communication from Boghos Bey, to the effect that Mehemet Ali was entirely ignorant of the movements of Ibrahim Pasha, and felt convinced that the intelligence I received was not altogether correct; that should your Excellency deem it expedient, he could have no hesitation in giving the order, but that in the mean time he proposed sending an officer to Beyrout, who should be allowed to proceed to Damascus, being the bearer of a copy of his letter to the Vizier, and make known to Ibrahim Pasha his intentions regarding the evacuation of Syria, and at the same time make arrangements for the transport by sea of the sick, wounded, and women, whom it would be impossible to remove by the overland route.

I remarked that such a proceeding would be totally irregular, as the commanding officer at Beyrout would never allow the passage of his Envoy, unless authorised by the Commander-in-chief, and that whatever communication he thought proper to make, must be made through your Excellency, and again urged him to wave all pretexts which might be interpreted into a desire to procrastinate, and at once to give the order in question.

On the same evening I had another communication from Boghos Bey, in which he said that Mehemet Ali based his declaration on the statement made by your Excellency, and which statement had never been officially contradicted, but that the moment he heard from your Excellency that Ibrahim Pasha was still in Syria, he would not hesitate to furnish you with an order for the immediate and unconditional departure of the Egyptian troops from Syria.

Foreseeing that further discussion would be unprofitable and productive of loss of time, I requested that a letter might be addressed to your Excellency, containing the intentions of Mehemet Ali, which I have now the honour to inclose.

I request that after perusal of this letter, your Excellency will favour me with your instructions how to proceed, and I have no hesitation in saying, that as soon as they are made known, I shall have no difficulty in carrying them into effect.

You will perceive, that till an official contradiction arrives of the

intelligence above alluded to, Mehemet Ali has a plea for refusing to take any further steps, the non-necessity of which had been pointed out to him by your Excellency.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN W. LARKING.

Sub-inclosure in No. 117.

Boghos Joussouf to Sir Robert Stopford.

Monsieur l'Amiral, *Alexandrie, le* 21 *Décembre,* 1840.

VOTRE Excellence a pu se convaincre, à la lecture de la lettre adressée par le Vice-Roi mon maître à Son Altesse le Grand Vizir, que nous avions été indirectement informés par une lettre, voie de terre, et datée des derniers jours de Ramazan, que Son Altesse Ibrahim Pacha se proposait d'opérer sa retraite de Damas, le 3 ou le 4 de Chewal, présent mois, pour rentrer en Egypte avec toute son armée. Cette nouvelle s'est d'ailleurs trouvée confirmée par les renseignemens parvenus à votre Excellence, et en conséquence desquelles vous avez jugé à propos, M. l'Amiral, de renvoyer à Alexandrie Hamid Bey, qui, conformément aux clauses de la Convention conclue avec le Commodore Napier, avait été expédié à votre Excellence avec des dépêches pour Son Altesse Ibrahim Pacha. Mr. Larking m'ayant toutefois fait connaître que d'après les informations qui lui avaient été transmises par le bateau à vapeur, sur lequel M. le Général Smith est arrivé à Alexandrie, on pouvait attribuer l'état de rebellion qui ne cesse de se manifester dans certaines parties du Liban, contre l'autorité de la Sublime Porte, au séjour prolongé du Général-en-Chef Egyptien à Damas, et m'ayant exprimé l'opinion qu'il serait convenable d'expédier itérativement à Son Altesse Ibrahim Pacha l'ordre d'évacuer la Syrie, je me suis empressé de soumettre cet avis au Vice-Roi. Son Altesse ayant bien voulu le prendre en considération, m'a ordonné de porter à la connaissance de votre Excellence que les communications par terre avec la Syrie sont complètement interrompues, par suite de l'état de trouble et d'anarchie dans lequel est pour le moment plongée cette province, et qu'il lui parait impossible par cette voie de tenir Son Altesse Ibrahim Pacha au courant du résultat des dernières négociations. Son Altesse rappelle en outre à votre Excellence, que le retour de Hamid Bey, qui avait été précédemment chargé de transmettre ses ordres au Général-en-Chef, ne lui a pas laissé la ressource d'une autre voie de communication. En présence de ces difficultés, le Vice-Roi désire que dans le cas où les appréhensions de Mr. Larking seraient fondées, et dans le cas aussi où il resterait à votre Excellence un moyen quelconque de communiquer avec le Quartier-Général Egyptien, vous veuillez bien, M. l'Amiral, envoyer à Alexandrie un bateau à vapeur, pour porter de nouveau en Syrie Hamid Bey, ainsi que l'officier Anglais chargé par votre Excellence de le seconder dans sa mission auprès d'Ibrahim Pacha.

Votre Excellence se trouvant en position de prendre une idée juste de l'état actuel des choses en Syrie, je la prie de me faire l'honneur de me transmettre, le plus tôt possible, son opinion sur ce point important, afin que nous puissions promptement y conformer nos démarches ultérieures.

Je saisis, &c.,
(Signé) BOGHOS JOUSSOUF.

(Translation.)

Monsieur l'Amiral, *Alexandria, December* 21, 1840.

YOUR Excellency has been enabled to convince yourself, by reading the letter addressed by the Viceroy, my master, to his Highness the Grand Vizier, that we had been informed indirectly by a letter received overland and dated the last days of the Ramazan, that his Highness Ibrahim Pasha proposed to effect his retreat from Damascus on the 3rd

or 4th Chewal, the present month, to return into Egypt with all his army. This news is moreover confirmed by the intelligence which has reached your Excellency, and in consequence of which you have thought fit, M. l'Amiral, to send back to Alexandria Hamid Bey, who, agreeably to the terms of the Convention concluded with Commodore Napier, had been sent to your Excellency with despatches for his Highness Ibrahim Pasha. Mr. Larking having however informed me, that, according to the intelligence which had been sent to him by the steam-boat in which General Smith came to Alexandria, the state of rebellion against the authority of the Sublime Porte in certain parts of the Lebanon may be attributed to the prolonged stay of the Egyptian Commander-in-Chief at Damascus, and having expressed to me an opinion, that it would be expedient again to send to his Highness Ibrahim Pasha the orders to evacuate Syria, I hastened to submit this opinion to the Viceroy. His Highness having been pleased to take it into consideration, has ordered me to acquaint your Excellency, that the communication by land with Syria is entirely interrupted in consequence of the state of trouble and anarchy in which that province at present is plunged, and that it appears to him impossible to apprize his Highness Ibrahim Pasha of the result of the last negotiations by that route. His Highness, moreover, recalls to your Excellency's attention, that the return of Hamid Bey, who had previously been directed to convey his orders to the Commander-in-Chief, has not left him the resource of another means of communication. In the midst of these difficulties, in the event of Mr. Larking's apprehensions being well-founded, and in case your Excellency should have any means of communicating with the Egyptian head-quarters, the Viceroy requests that you will have the goodness, M. l'Amiral, to send a steamer to Alexandria, to convey Hamid Bey again to Syria, together with the English officer who may be directed by your Excellency to assist him in his mission to Ibrahim Pasha.

Your Excellency being enabled by your position to form a just idea of the present state of affairs in Syria, I beg you to do me the honour to furnish me with your opinion on this important point as soon as possible, in order that we may promptly take further measures in conformity therewith.

I avail myself, &c.,
(Signed) BOGHOS JOUSSOUF.

No. 118.

Mr. Consul Larking to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 8, 1841.)

My Lord, *Alexandria, December* 23, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that I have just been informed that M. Cochelet has received despatches from Count Ratti-Menton, French Consul at Damascus, stating that Ibrahim and Solyman Pashas have concentrated their troops at Damascus, amounting in all to 40,000 men, with 20,000 camp followers, and that with this force they could defy the efforts of the Allies to expel them from Syria.

I have no means of knowing whether or not this statement is founded on truth, but I have considered it important that your Lordship should be made acquainted with the circumstance.

I have &c.,
(Signed) JOHN W. LARKING.

No. 119.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 14, 1841.)

My Lord, *Therapia, December* 15, 1840.

RECHID PASHA has informed me, that the Sultan has read your Lordship's despatch to Earl Granville of the 2nd of November*, and that His Majesty has expressed the great pleasure it gave him, as a vindication of his Sovereign right.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 120.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 14, 1841.)

My Lord, *Therapia, December* 16, 1840.

THE "Stromboli" has this moment arrived from Alexandria, and Captain Fanshawe, the officer employed by the Admiral Sir Robert Stopford, has brought a letter from Mehemet Ali to be delivered to the Grand Vizier, of which I inclose a translation given to me by Captain Fanshawe†.

I have sent notice of the arrival of Captain Fanshawe to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and requested that he may be admitted to the Grand Vizier to deliver the letter from Mehemet Ali.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 121.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 14, 1841.)

My Lord, *Therapia, December* 15, 1840.

ON the 12th, his Excellency Rechid Pasha informed me that he had had a conversation with M. Cor, the French Dragoman, to the following effect:—

M. Cor, speaking to the Pasha of the note sent by the Sublime Porte to the Four Representatives upon the subject of Commodore Napier's Convention, said, that the Porte was in the right to protest against the form of that Act, but not against its substance; that the Act was generally approved of, particularly because it seemed likely to bring about a nearer connection between France and the Powers parties to the the Convention of the 15th of July; that the Porte might yet repent of acting as it did towards France, her most ancient ally; that the self-love of France was engaged in the question, and that means must be found, or some engagement made, in which France could take part.

The Pasha replied, that as the Sublime Porte found the form of the Convention as bad as the substance was contrary to the interests of His Highness the Sultan, it was the duty of the Porte to act as it had done;—"You say," continued the Pasha, "that it is necessary to make an engagement of which France may be an integral part; we have only two propositions to make, and both are diametrically opposed to the policy adopted by France; namely, either the total and absolute submission of Mehemet Ali as a subject, and not as a vassal, or, his annihilation. How is it that you pretend to have at heart the integrity and the independence of the Ottoman Empire, when you seek to partition it? if you are so anxious for the preservation of Mehemet Ali, you have only to appoint him Governor of one of your provinces."

* See Part II., p. 338. † For correct translation, see Inclosure 1 in No. 126.

"However," said M. Cor, "Egypt and some other provinces might well be given to Mehemet Ali, without making a partition of the empire." The Pasha replied, "Mehemet Ali is a rebel subject, and consequently his Sovereign is bound to treat him as such; but if he should submit as a simple subject, perhaps, in that case, he might be treated with generosity; but, at any rate, so long as Mehemet Ali exists, so long the friendship of France will be divided between the subject and the Sovereign; and as we are anxious that friendship should be exclusively for us, Mehemet Ali must be annihilated."

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 122.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 14, 1841.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, December* 16, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a letter I received this day from Commodore Napier, and my reply to it.

Inclosure 1 in No. 122.

Commodore Napier to Viscount Ponsonby.

Her Majesty's Ship "Powerful,"
(Extract.) *Marmorice Bay, December* 14, 1840.

THE Commander-in-Chief has sent me a copy of a letter addressed to me by your Lordship, the original of which, I presume, has been sent to Alexandria; this letter states that the Porte had made a formal protest against my acts, and that the Convention is null and void, in which your Lordship and your Colleagues entirely concur, and you call upon me to abstain from carrying it into execution.

In reply to which, I beg leave to acquaint your Lordship that I never had the least idea that the Convention could be carried into execution without the authority of the Porte and the Commander-in-Chief, to whom the whole correspondence was addressed; therefore I cannot see the necessity of the formal protest of the Porte against my acts.

The Convention simply tied down Mehemet Ali to abandon Syria immediately, and give up the Turkish fleet, when the Porte acknowledged his hereditary title to govern Egypt; and on these conditions, I agreed to suspend hostilities.

I was led to believe, from Lord Palmerston's letter to your Lordship, that I had followed up the views of the Allied Powers. I was led to believe, by letters I have received from different members of the Government, that they were most anxious to settle the Eastern Question speedily.

I further know that the French Consul-General and other French Agents at Alexandria were doing all they could to prevent Mehemet Ali from submitting, still holding out hopes of assistance from France.

Under all these circumstances, I thought I was serving my country and the cause of the Sultan, in tying down Mehemet Ali to immediately evacuate Syria, and give up the Turkish fleet when acknowledged; and I knew perfectly well that Convention did not tie down the Sultan; and I firmly believe that if Thiers' Ministry had not fallen, all I have done would have been approved, and I think it still will be approved.

I have sent a copy of this to Admiral Sir Robert Stopford, and I trust your Lordship will send a copy to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Inclosure 2 in No. 122.

Viscount Ponsonby to Commodore Napier.

(Extract.) *Therapia, December* 16, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated December the 14th. I have inclosed it for Her Majesty's Government.

No. 123.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 16, 1841.*)*

(Extract.) *Therapia, December* 18, 1840.

I ENQUIRED of Admiral Walker how soon it would be possible for the Ottoman fleet to be delivered up to the Sultan. He said, that with the aid of British ships and men, it might be prepared, and conducted to Candia, in the course of three weeks or so, but that it could not be risked in the Archipelago.

No. 124.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 16, 1841.*)*

(Extract.) *Therapia, December* 22, 1840.

IN my despatch of the 16th instant, I reported the arrival of Captain Fanshawe, and the request I made to the Grand Vizier to allow the Captain to present Mehemet Ali's letter to His Highness. I have now to acquaint your Lordship that the interview took place on the 18th instant, when Captain Fanshawe, accompanied by Captains Williams and Codrington, waited on the Vizier, and gave him the letter, and Captain Fanshawe made observations in corroboration of the statements it contained, which your Lordship will find, as well as the reply made by the Grand Vizier, in the inclosed paper.

I have the honour to inclose a copy of a letter from Captain Fanshawe.

Inclosure 1 in No. 124.

M. Pisani to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Péra, le* 18 *Décembre,* 1840.

VOICI ce qui s'est passé à l'entrevue du Capitaine Fanshawe avec le Grand Vizir. Le Capitaine était accompagné du Capitaine Codrington, et du Capitaine du "Stromboli." Le Capitaine a dit au Grand Vizir par l'entremise de son propre Drogman, qui est le Drogman du Consul d'Angleterre à Smyrne, qu'il a été chargé par l'Amiral de porter à Alexandrie une intimation à Méhémet Ali de faire sa soumission, en consentant à tous les points qu'on portait à sa connaissance,—points sur lesquels le Gouvernement Anglais est parfaitement d'accord avec ses Alliés; que sa commission consistait à prendre la réponse de Méhémet Ali dans une lettre ouverte, et de remettre lui-même la lettre de Méhémet Ali entre les mains de Son Altesse le Grand Vizir, et en disant cela, il a remis au Grand Vizir la lettre de Méhémet Ali, et une lettre de Moustapha Pacha de Candie, qui contint sa soumission.

Le Grand Vizir a dit, après avoir lu la lettre de Méhémet Ali: "La Porte a déjà une connaissance de ces conditions, comme on sait; mais je ne saurais vous rien dire sur cette grande question, que la Sublime Porte traite avec les Cours Alliées, et qui, par conséquent, est devenu

une affaire de politique extérieure, tout-à-fait du ressort du Département des Affaires Extérieures, qui connait toutes les circonstances y relatives beaucoup mieux que moi. La Porte considérera sur cette question avec les Représentans des Cours Alliées, et son Excellence le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères fera connaître aux Alliés les intentions de la Porte; je vous prie, en attendant, M. le Capitaine, de ne pas prendre l'acceptation de cette lettre à vos mains, comme une acceptation de son contenu." Le Capitaine a dit qu'il n'était non plus nullement autorisé à entrer dans les détails de cette affaire, et qu'il prendra des mains de Lord Ponsonby le résultat de cette affaire. Le Capitaine a dit que Méhémet Ali lui a donné sa parole qu'il remettra la flotte Turque à tel officier que la Porte chargera de la conduire ici. Le Vizir a répondu, "La flotte est à nous; Alexandrie est notre pays. Nous sommes sûrs d'avoir la flotte tôt ou tard immanquablement." Le Capitaine a saisi à propos pour parler de pacification entre le Sultan et Méhémet Ali; le Grand Vizir a répondu, "La pacification se fait entre deux Gouvernemens, et non pas entre un Souverain et un de ses sujets rebelles."

J'ai rendu compte à Réchid Pacha de ce qui s'est passé.

(Signé) F. PISANI.

(Translation.)

M. Pisani to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Pera, December* 18, 1840.

THE following is what took place at the interview between Captain Fanshawe and the Grand Vizier. The Captain was accompanied by Captain Codrington and the Captain of the "Stromboli." The Captain said to the Grand Vizier, through his own Dragoman, who is the Dragoman of the English Consul at Smyrna, that he had been ordered by the Admiral to convey to Alexandria a summons to Mehemet Ali to make his submission, by consenting to all the points which were brought to his knowledge—points which the English Government was perfectly agreed upon with its Allies; that his commission was to receive the reply of Mehemet Ali in an open letter, and to deliver himself Mehemet Ali's letter into the hands of his Highness the Grand Vizier; and in saying this, he delivered to the Grand Vizier the letter from Mehemet Ali, and a letter from Mustapha Pasha of Candia containing his submission.

The Grand Vizier said, after having read Mehemet Ali's letter: "The Porte is already aware of these conditions, as is known; but I can tell you nothing upon this great Question which the Sublime Porte is treating with the Allied Courts, and which consequently has become a question of foreign policy, belonging entirely to the Department for Foreign Affairs, which is acquainted with all the circumstances relating to it better than I am. The Porte will take this question into consideration with the Representatives of the Allied Courts, and his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs will make known the intentions of the Porte to the Allies; I beg you, M. le Capitaine, in the mean time, not to consider my acceptance of this letter from you as an acceptance of its contents." Captain Fanshawe said that he also was in nowise authorized to enter into the details of this affair, and that he would learn the result from Lord Ponsonby. The Captain said that Mehemet Ali had given him his word that he would deliver over the Turkish fleet to whatever officer the Porte shall direct to conduct it hither. The Vizier replied, "The fleet is ours; Alexandria is our country; we are perfectly sure of having the fleet sooner or later." The Captain took the opportunity of speaking of peace between the Sultan and Mehemet Ali. The Grand Vizier replied, "Peace is made between two Governments, and not between a Sovereign and one of his rebel subjects."

I have made a report to Rechid Pasha of what took place.

Accept, &c.,

(Signed) F. PISANI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 124.

Captain Fanshawe to Viscount Ponsonby.

Her Majesty's steam vessel "Stromboli,"
Therapia, December 17, 1840.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my interview with your Lordship yesterday, I have now the honour to inclose to you a copy of the Note which I gave to Mehemet Ali on the 8th instant, after having communicated to him the contents verbally, and which your Lordship will perceive is strictly in conformity with the instructions from Lord Palmerston, which I received from Admiral Sir Robert Stopford, on being directed by him to proceed to Alexandria for the purpose.

On the third day after my arrival at Alexandria, I received from Boghos Bey the translation, which I presented to your Lordship yesterday, of the letter, or written engagement, from Mehemet Ali to the Vizier, the original of which I am the bearer of, and which I subsequently received from Mehemet Ali himself.

I beg leave also to take this opportunity of reporting to your Lordship, that in both the interviews I had with Mehemet Ali, he expressed himself desirous of yielding entirely to the Sultan's commands, in the hope that the intervention of the Allied Powers, and the mediation of England, with which he seemed much pleased, would obtain for him the tenure of Egypt, he laid stress upon holding the guarantee set forth in the Convention recently made with him by Commodore Napier; but I gave him to understand distinctly, that Convention had not been ratified by the Admiral Commander-in-Chief, and that I had no guarantee to offer him. I urged him at once to give up the Ottoman fleet, on which subject he pledged himself, most earnestly, that he would give it up to any officer the Sultan might name to take charge of it, immediately he arrived at Alexandria; or to the English Admiral, if so ordered; that he would lend his own officers and seamen to assist in navigating it; and that, as far as he was concerned, it should be ready to quit the port five days after the arrival of the Sultan's officer; and that he had already given orders for its preparation, (which, from information I received at the Arsenal, I believe was the case).

At my first interview with him, he promised to comply with my requisition as to time, the translations of the documents to be given to me, and their being sent under flying seal; and he did so: and at my suggestion gave me a letter to the Governor of Candia, directing him to give up the island to the Sultan's authorities, and to be prepared to quit it with the Egyptian troops; in short, he said he would do all that was required of him. With respect to the immediate evacuation of the Holy Cities, I was informed that the troops remaining in them, amounting to about 2,000, were left only for the purpose of maintaining order and security, and would be instructed to quit them on receiving the Sultan's commands, or on the arrival of Turkish troops.

I shall proceed in the "Stromboli" to-day to Constantinople, that she may take in coal; and I shall be prepared to wait on the Vizier with his letter, when I receive the intimation from him of his wish to see me; and unless your Lordship should wish the steamer to return to Therapia, I shall await in her, in the Golden Horn, your Lordship's instructions for my further guidance.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) ARTHUR FANSHAWE,
Captain.

Inclosure 3 in No. 124.

Alexandria, December 8, 1840.

IT having been determined by the Representatives of the Four Powers at London, who are parties to the Treaty of the 15th July, to make known their intentions to Mehemet Ali, through the Admiral commanding the Allied

forces in the Mediterranean, and instructions on the subject, bearing date 14th November, having been forwarded by Lord Palmerston, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to the Honourable Sir Robert Stopford, I have been appointed by the Admiral to proceed to Alexandria to make the following communication to Mehemet Ali: viz.—That if Mehemet Ali will make immediate submission to the Sultan, and will deliver into my hands a written engagement to restore without further delay the Turkish fleet, and to cause his troops immediately to evacuate the whole of Syria, the district of Adana, the Island of Candia, Arabia, and the Holy Cities, the Four Powers will recommend the Sultan to reinstate Mehemet Ali in the Pashalic of Egypt; but I am directed also to state, that the recommendation will be given by the Four Powers, only in the event of the prompt submission of Mehemet Ali, and that I am only to remain three days in Alexandria to know the decision of Mehemet Ali, in order to convey it to Constantinople; and I am instructed further to require, that the written document to be given to me by Mehemet Ali shall be placed in my hands open, in order that I may inform myself that it contains the above-mentioned engagement, without which I shall not be empowered to convey it to Constantinople.

(Signed) ARTHUR FANSHAWE,
Captain.

No. 125.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 16, 1841.)

My Lord, *Therapia, December* 23, 1840.

I RECEIVED this afternoon the Protocol of the Conference held at the House of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the 20th instant, at which were present Rechid Pasha, and the Representatives of the Four Allies, and the Dragomans of Austria and England, and M. Franceschi, who made the Protocol which I have now the honour to inclose.

I have little need to explain to your Lordship the grounds upon which I acted; submission is the first mentioned of the conditions, upon which I am ordered to give advice to the Sublime Porte, and it is also the most important, the others being insignificant, as things have turned out. My duty is to see that submission has been made by Mehemet Ali—real submission, and there are many things to make it very doubtful if Mehemet Ali has submitted, and has not taken this matter as concessions forced upon the Sultan by the Allies for the purpose of establishing him in Egypt with indefinite power. Your Lordship's instructions would not authorise me to say that such a submission is the submission contemplated by Her Majesty's Government, and as I do not think it proper for me, under the circumstances in which I am placed, to declare that it is not a submission, I have declined giving any opinion at all on the point, and said I would await the decision of it by the Sublime Porte, having stated what counsel I shall have to offer in the name of my Government, if the Sublime Porte accept the submission.

Your Lordship has always declared that the Sultan is the sole judge and arbiter of his own interests; and you will see, in the Protocol, that the Representatives united cordially in disavowing intentions to act upon the Sultan except by counsel alone. I saw this with satisfaction, because endeavours have not been wanting to inspire the Ottoman Ministers with some jealousy of the prepotency of the Four Powers.

It will appear, I think, in the Protocol, that I am not alone in thinking the submission may be subject to doubt, for the Internuncio says that Mehemet Ali has made a commencement of submission. This may be so, for the interest of Mehemet Ali is to accept the boon offered him, as he gives nothing for it in return; but my orders from my Government are not subject to be modified by me, and I cannot take upon myself the responsibility of acting without the most positive authority in a question like the present.

I will send a messenger to acquaint your Lordship with the determination of the Sublime Porte whenever I am informed of it.

I send the copy of the Protocol which was sent to me by his Excellency the Internuncio.

The Protocol is substantially correct in statement of what passed, but there are errors in its report of expressions.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure in No. 125.

PROTOCOL of the Conference held at the House of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Sublime Porte, the 20th of December, 1840, between the Minister for Foreign Affairs, on one part, and the Representatives of Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia, on the other.

M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères.—Vous savez, Messieurs, qu'une lettre a été adressée par Méhémet Ali à la Sublime Porte, et vous en connaissez le contenu. La Sublime Porte a également reçu avant hier le mémorandum de la Conférence de Londres du 14 Novembre. Le Sultan m'a ordonné de vous demander, Messieurs, si Méhémet Ali s'est conformé par cette lettre à l'esprit du mémorandum, et si sa soumission doit être considérée comme réelle ?

M. l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre.—Je pense que c'est au Sultan qu'il peut seulement appartenir de décider ce point.

M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères.—Jusqu'ici il n'y a de la part de Méhémet Ali que des paroles ; s'il exécute les promesses faites dans la lettre, alors sa soumission pourra être considérée comme réelle.

M. l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre.—Je laisse à mes Collègues de décider là-dessus. Quant à moi, je ne vois pour le moment rien devant moi qui m'autorise à m'expliquer, ni à énoncer une opinion.

M. l'Internonce d'Autriche.—Dans le but de me décharger de toute responsabilité et de faire clairement connaître les vues de mon Gouvernement dans une circonstance aussi importante, j'ai cru convenable de mettre mon vote par écrit. Je vais en faire la lecture à la Conférence:—" J'ai lu et relu avec la plus scrupuleuse attention la lettre que Méhémet Ali vient d'adresser au Grand Vizir, et sur laquelle je suis appelé à dire mon opinion. Je n'y ai rien trouvé qui ne soit correct. Le ton qui y règne m'a paru répondre à tous les sentimens de convenance. Il eut été désirable qu'il n'y eût pas été question de la Convention du Commodore Napier : mais nous sommes tous d'accord qu'il l'eut été bien plus encore que cette Convention n'eut jamais été conclue ; et Méhémet Ali, en s'y référant, n'a fait que se prévaloir d'un avantage qui lui a été offert gratuitement. Il n'aurait tenu d'ailleurs qu'au Capitaine Fanshawe de lui représenter qu'un Acte que les Commandeurs Alliés avaient déclaré nul et comme non avenu, ne devait pas être mentionné dans la lettre au Grand Vizir. Mais je ne m'appesentirai pas sur cette circonstance, qui, à tout prendre, n'a plus maintenant qu'un intérêt secondaire. Je reviens à la lettre de Méhémet Ali. Dans cette lettre le Pacha déclare être prêt à faire tout ce qu'on lui demande, et sous ce rapport sa soumission me parait entière.

" Je serais donc d'avis que cette soumission fût acceptée ; qu'un officier de Sa Hautesse fût envoyé à Alexandrie ; que Méhémet Ali reçut l'injonction de lui remettre la flotte Ottomane ; que d'après les termes de l'Acte Séparé de la Convention du 15 Juillet, les Commandeurs Alliés fussent invités à assister à cette remise ; que le Pacha fût sommé d'évacuer les provinces ou villes de l'Empire Ottoman qu'occupent encore les troupes Egyptiennes et qui se trouvent situées en dehors des limites de l'Egypte ; enfin, que le Grand Vizir, en répondant à sa lettre, lui annonçat que, ces conditions une fois remplies en entier, Sa Hautesse, par égard pour ses Alliés, daignerait le réinstaller dans ses fonctions de Pacha d'Egypte. Ce conseil est celui que la Conférence de Londres a voulu que nous donnassions

à la Sublime Porte dans le cas où Méhémet Ali se rendrait à la sommation qui vient de lui être faite. Quant au tribut, aux forces de terre et de mer, et aux lois qui devront gouverner l'Egypte, ces points ont été réglés d'avance par la Convention du 15 Juillet, et il suffira d'exécuter à cet égard les stipulations que renferment les Articles III., V., et VI., de l'Acte Séparé annexé à cette Convention.

" Je regarderais comme regrettable à tous égards toute hésitation de la Porte à se conformer aux conseils de ses Alliés. Les plus brillans succès ont couronné leurs efforts en Syrie: ces succès ont dépassé nos calculs, nos prévisions, nos espérances. La Syrie est rentrée sous le sceptre de Sa Hautesse, et le principal objet de l'Alliance se trouve ainsi rempli. Aller plus loin, n'entre pas dans les vues des Puissances Alliées: la Conférence de Londres s'est assez clairement prononcée à cet égard. La Sublime Porte peut sans doute avoir de bonnes raisons pour désirer l'anéantissement de Méhémet Ali; mais n'ayant pas les moyens de l'effectuer elle-même, ce serait sur ses Alliés qu'en retomberait la charge. Or, voudrait-elle, pour prix des services qu'ils lui ont rendus, les jeter dans une entreprise qui mettrait en péril la paix générale si ardemment désirée par tous les peuples et si heureusement maintenue jusqu'ici.

" C'est vers la France surtout, que se porte aujourd'hui l'attention de nos Gouvernemens; cette Puissance a droit à leurs égards et à leur intérêt; et si l'attitude menaçante et belliqueuse du Ministère Thiers n'a pu les arrêter dans leur marche vers le but qu'ils se proposaient et qu'ils ont atteint, ils semblent désormais vouloir vouer tous leurs soins à ménager le Ministère qui lui succède, et dont le langage annonce une politique sage, modérée, et conciliante. Ils doivent en conséquence entrer dans sa position, faire la part des difficultés dont il est entouré, et ne pas l'exposer à se voir entraîné malgré lui dans une fausse route. Dans l'état où sont les esprits en France, un incident imprévu peut tout bouleverser, et n'est-il pas dans l'intérêt de tous et dans celui de la justice, qu'on s'unisse franchement à ceux qui la gouvernent, pour prévenir un pareil malheur?"

M. l'Internonce donne ensuite lecture des paragraphes 3, 4, 5, and 6, de l'Acte Séparé du 15 Juillet.

M. l'Envoyé de Prusse.—Je partage l'opinion de M. l'Internonce. La démarche de Méhémet Ali me parait en effet conforme à l'esprit du Mémorandum. Je pense, en outre, que Méhémet Ali ayant solicité son pardon du Sultan, la Sublime Porte ne devrait pas agir avec trop de sévérité contre lui; qu'elle devrait au contraire se prêter à des explications, et faire preuve de mesure et de modération, non seulement dans l'intérêt de la Porte elle-même, mais encore dans l'intérêt général de l'Europe.

M. le Chargé d'Affaires de Russie.—Dans tout ce qui a trait à la question générale les vues de mon Gouvernement ne sauraient différer de celles des Trois autres Cours ses Alliées; mes instructions sont basées sur ce principe. Dans la question spéciale qui fait l'objet de cette Conférence, les documens existans doivent nous indiquer la marche et les règles à suivre; or, cette marche et ces règles me semblent déjà tracés par le mémorandum de la Conférence de Londres du 14 Novembre, et par la dépêche de Lord Palmerston du 15 Octobre. Le mémorandum ne m'est pas encore parvenu de mon Gouvernement; c'est M. l'Internonce qui a eu l'obligeance de me le communiquer; j'ai seulement reçu la dépêche de Lord Palmerston, qui est mentionnée, et je crois me conformer au sens de ces pièces, en m'associant, dans la circonstance dont il s'agit, au vote émis par M. l'Internonce.

M. l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre.—La question, je le répète, me semble dépendre du fait de la soumission de Méhémet Ali, et le Sultan me parait seul juge dans une semblable question; il a seul le droit de prononcer. Si la Sublime Porte nous fait connaître que le Sultan a agréé la soumission de Méhémet Ali, qu'il en est satisfait, les ordres de mon Gouvernement me prescrivent de conseiller, dans ce cas, à la Sublime Porte d'accorder à Méhémet Ali le gouvernement héréditaire de l'Egypte. Jusque là, jusqu'à ce que la Porte nous fasse connaître la décision du Sultan, je dois m'abstenir de tout conseil, de toute opinion.

Le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères.—Il y a différens genres de soumission. Méhémet Ali aurait pu, par exemple, venir lui-même, d'après nos usages, ou envoyer quelqu'un pour implorer sa grâce ; mais ce n'est pas ce que nous prétendons. Le mémorandum veut que Méhémet Ali restitue la flotte, qu'il évacue certains pays. Il écrit qu'il fera tout cela ; s'il accomplit ces promesses, la Sublime Porte pourra croire à la soumission, mais la lettre ne peut pas être considérée par elle seule comme une soumission réelle.

M. l'Internonce d'Autriche.—La lettre est un commencement de soumission. Si la Sublime Porte demande la remise de la flotte, que Méhémet Ali la restitue, et qu'il évacue les pays désignés dans le mémorandum, sa soumission sera certainement alors complète.

M. le Chargé d'Affaires de Russie.—Il est certain que nous ne pourrons considérer la soumission de Méhémet Ali comme accomplie que lorsqu'il aura rendu la flotte, et évacué les Villes Saintes, ainsi que les autres lieux nommés dans le mémorandum: mais nous devons pour le moment nous en tenir au texte du mémorandum et de l'instruction adressée par l'Amirauté à l'Amiral Stopford, où il est fait mention d'une lettre à être remise par Méhémet Ali à l'officier chargé de lui signifier la décision de la Conférence de Londres.

M. l'Internonce.—Que pouvait faire de plus Méhémet Ali ? Il devait commencer par dire qu'il se soumettait, et il ne pouvait dans la même heure effectuer toutes les conditions de sa soumission.

M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, faisant allusion à ce qu'avait dit M. l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre, fait observer que jusqu'ici il n'avait point été question d'hérédité.

M. l'Internonce.—Je ne suis pas appelé dans ce moment à discuter cet objet, sur lequel je n'ai point d'instruction précise, mais, le cas échéant, je me conformerai entièrement sur ce point à ce que fera M. l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre.

M. l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre.—Pour moi, j'ai l'ordre précis de conseiller à la Sublime Porte de concéder l'hérédité à Méhémet Ali, dès qu'elle nous fera connaître que le Sultan est satisfait de la soumission de Méhémet Ali; mais ce conseil ne peut qu'être conditionnel; je n'ai pas le droit de juger de la réalité de la soumission, et je dois attendre, pour le donner, que le Sultan se prononce sur le fait de la soumission.

M. l'Internonce.—Quant à moi, je dois le répéter, j'envisage la lettre de Méhémet Ali comme un premier pas vers sa soumission.

M. l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre.—Je ne pourrai agir dans le sens des instructions de mon Gouvernement que lorsque la Sublime Porte aura déclaré qu'elle considère la soumission de Méhémet Ali comme complète. Mais je ne puis demander au Sultan une déclaration quelconque à ce sujet, car je croirais empiéter sur ses droits. C'est à Sa Majesté à décider.

M. l'Envoyé de Prusse.—Je pense, ainsi que je l'ai déjà dit, que la Sublime Porte ne doit pas user en cette circonstance de trop de sévérité, et je dois l'engager toujours à la modération.

M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères.—La Porte n'a jamais voulu agir avec sévérité; les faits l'ont déjà prouvé. Elle ne le veut pas même aujourd'hui. Elle veut, au contraire, agir de concert avec ses Alliés, et quoique ce soit sans doute au Sultan à décider sur la soumission de Méhémet Ali, néanmoins, comme ses Alliés ont déclaré leurs intentions dans le mémorandum, j'ai cru devoir consulter leurs Représentans pour savoir si la démarche de Méhémet Ali est conforme à l'esprit du mémorandum; mais, puisqu'il y a dissidence dans leurs opinions, on pourrait s'en remettre à la décision de la Conférence de Londres.

M. l'Internonce.—Mais il n'y a point de dissidence entre nous ; nous pensons tous que la soumission de Méhémet Ali, pour devenir complète, doit être suivie

de l'exécution des conditions qui lui sont imposées. Je pense encore, que renvoyer la question à la décision de la Conférence de Londres, ce serait en appeler de la Conférence à la Conférence, et perdre du temps en ajournemens inutiles.

Le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères.—Je crois que Méhémet Ali doit d'abord exécuter les conditions qui lui sont imposées; quant à l'hérédité, c'est une autre question sur laquelle je ne suis pas préparé à m'expliquer.

M. l'Internonce déclare encore une fois que, le moment venu, il s'associera sur ce point aux démarches de M. l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre, et M. l'Envoyé de Prusse fait la même déclaration.

Le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères.—Vous savez, Messieurs, qu'à son avènement au trône, le Sultan avait accordé à Méhémet Ali l'administration héréditaire de l'Egypte; il a rejeté cette faveur. Le Traité du 15 Juillet la lui a accordée encore plus tard, dans le but d'épargner l'effusion du sang; Méhémet Ali l'a également rejetée. Il a fallu recourir aux mesures coërcitives, et le Sultan a retiré cette faveur. Aujourd'hui, il me semble qu'il ne peut plus être question d'un droit en faveur de Méhémet Ali, et que le Sultan est libre de se décider sur ce point.

Messieurs les Représentans sont tous unanimes à reconnaître que le Sultan a toute sa liberté d'action à cet égard, et que Méhémet Ali ne saurait invoquer aucun droit.

M. l'Envoyé de Prusse a ajouté que toute concession en faveur de Méhémet Ali ne saurait être envisagée que comme un effet de la générosité du Sultan, car l'indépendance de Sa Hautesse est le but de la Convention du 15 Juillet; mais plus la position du Sultan est avantageuse aujourd'hui, et plus elle lui permettra peut-être d'être généreux.

Le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères.—Puisque Méhémet Ali a rejeté le Traité du 15 Juillet, ce Traité n'existe plus pour lui, et l'on pourrrait imposer à Méhémet Ali d'autres conditions.

M. l'Internonce.—Mais le Traité existe toujours pour nous.

M. l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre.—Je déclare que, dans mon opinion, Méhémet Ali n'a aucun droit aujourd'hui, que le Sultan est le maître de prendre le parti qu'il croira convenable, et que nous ne pouvons que lui prêter nos conseils.

Le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, s'adressant à M. l'Internonce, lui dit:—Votre Excellence a commencé par dire que si le Sultan est satisfait de la lettre de Méhémet Ali, on devrait accepter sa soumission. Mais Méhémet Ali a déjà écrit mille lettres semblables. Peut-on ajouter foi à ses lettres? Il est évident d'ailleurs qu'il y a de la ruse même dans cette dernière lettre. Par exemple, il parle de la Convention du Commodore Napier, qui est un Acte nul, pour aborder le sujet de l'hérédité.

M. l'Internonce.—Cela est vrai, mais on ne peut comparer cette lettre donnée par suite d'une sommation qui lui est faite par l'Amiral Anglais, au nom des Quatre Puissances, à toutes celles qu'il a adressées de son chef à la Sublime Porte, et nommément à Hosrew Pacha.

M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères.—Vous concevez, Messieurs, qu'il faut qu'en tout cas la Porte ait le temps de réfléchir sur cette affaire.

M. l'Internonce.—Assurément, une affaire de ce genre ne peut être bâclée dans un jour; il faut sans doute que votre Excellence puisse se concerter avec ses Collègues et prendre les ordres du Sultan.

M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères fait observer que, devant soumettre au Conseil et au Sultan son rapport sur la Conférence de ce jour, il désire savoir, en définitive, quelle est la conclusion qu'il doit leur faire connaître.

Messieurs les Représentans répondent que, leur opinion se trouvant consignée dans le présent Protocole, ils s'y réfèrent.

M. l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre.—Je répète que je dois attendre la décision du Sultan pour donner le conseil qui m'est prescrit par les ordres de mon Gouvernement.

M. l'Internonce fait observer encore une fois combien il serait regrettable que la Porte ne se conformât pas avec promptitude au vœu exprimé par les Cours Alliées dans le mémorandum du 14 Novembre.

(Translation.)

The Minister for Foreign Affairs.—You are aware, gentlemen, that a letter was addressed by Mehemet Ali to the Sublime Porte, and you are acquainted with its contents. The Sublime Porte yesterday received likewise the Memorandum of the Conference of London of the 14th of November. The Sublime Porte directs me to ask you, gentlemen, if Mehemet Ali by this letter has complied with the spirit of the Memorandum, and if his submission ought to be considered as real?

The Ambassador of England.—I think that it belongs to the Sultan alone to decide this point.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs.—Up to this time there have only been words on the part of Mehemet Ali; if he executes the promises made in the letter, then his submission may be considered as real.

The Ambassador of England.—I leave to my Colleagues to decide upon that point. As for me, I see nothing before me at present which can authorise me in explaining myself, or in giving an opinion.

The Internuncio of Austria.—With the view of relieving myself from all responsibility, and of making the views of my Government in so important a matter clearly manifest, I have deemed it fitting to give my vote in writing. I will now read it to the Conference:—"I have read over and over again with the most scrupulous attention the letter which Mehemet Ali has just addressed to the Grand Vizier, and on which I am called upon to pronounce my opinion. I have found nothing in it which is not correct. The tone which pervades it has appeared to me to be altogether proper. It might have been desirable that no allusion had been made to the Convention of Commodore Napier; but we are all agreed that it would have been much more so that the Convention in question had never been concluded; and Mehemet Ali, by referring to it, has only made use of an advantage which has been gratuitously offered to him. Besides, it was Captain Fanshawe alone who should have represented to him that an Act which the Allied commanders had declared null and of no effect, ought not to be mentioned in the letter to the Grand Vizier. But I will not dwell on this point, which, after all, is now only of secondary interest. I return to Mehemet Ali's letter. In this letter the Pasha declares himself ready to do all that is required of him, and in this respect his submission appears to me entire.

"I should then be of opinion that this submission should be accepted; that an officer of His Highness should be sent to Alexandria; that Mehemet Ali should be enjoined to deliver up to him the Ottoman fleet; that, according to the terms of the Separate Act of the Convention of the 15th of July, the Allied Commanders should be invited to assist at such delivery; that the Pasha should be summoned to evacuate the provinces or cities of the Ottoman Empire still occupied by the Egyptian troops, and situated beyond the limits of Egypt; finally, that the Grand Vizier, in replying to his letter, should announce to him that when once these conditions should be entirely fulfilled, His Highness, from deference to his Allies, would be pleased to reinstate him in his functions as Pasha of Egypt. This advice is what the Conference of London wished that we should give to the Sublime Porte, in case

Mehemet Ali should yield to the summons about to be made to him. As for the tribute, the land and sea forces, and the laws which must govern Egypt, those points have been settled beforehand by the Convention of the 15th of July, and it will be sufficient to execute in this respect the stipulations contained in the IIIrd, Vth, and VIth Articles of the Separate Act annexed to the Convention.

"I should consider as in every respect to be regretted any hesitation on the part of the Porte to comply with the advice of its Allies. The most brilliant successes have crowned their efforts in Syria; those successes have surpassed our calculations, our anticipations, our expectations. Syria has returned to the rule of His Highness, and thus the principal object of the Alliance is accomplished. To proceed further, does not enter into the views of the Allied Powers; the Conference of London has pronounced with sufficient distinctness in this respect. The Sublime Porte may doubtless have good reasons to desire the destruction of Mehemet Ali; but as it has not the means of effecting it itself, the task of doing so would devolve upon its Allies. Now would it desire, in return for the services which they have rendered to it, to involve them in an undertaking which would endanger the general peace, so ardently desired by all people, and so happily maintained up to the present time?

"It is especially towards France that the attention of our Governments is at present directed; that Power is entitled to their respect and their consideration; and if the menacing and warlike attitude of the Thiers Ministry could not stay them in their course towards the end which they proposed to themselves, and which they have attained, they appear henceforth to be desirous to dedicate all their care to keep well with the Ministry which succeeds it, and whose language announces a prudent, moderate, and conciliatory policy. They must consequently enter into its position, make allowances for the difficulties by which it is surrounded, and not expose it to be hurried along against its will in a false course. In the present state of sentiments in France an unlooked-for event might subvert everything; and is it not for the interest of all and for that of justice, that they should frankly unite themselves with those who govern France, to prevent a like calamity?"

The Internuncio thereupon reads the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth paragraphs of the Separate Act of the 15th of July.

The Envoy of Prussia.—I partake of the opinion of the Internuncio. Mehemet Ali's proceeding appears to me in fact to be in conformity with the spirit of the Memorandum. I think besides, that Mehemet Ali having solicited his pardon of the Sultan, the Sublime Porte ought not to act with too great severity against him; that, on the contrary, it ought to lend itself to explanations, and to evince consideration and moderation, not only for the interest of the Porte itself, but also for the general interest of Europe.

The Chargé d'Affaires of Russia.—In all that relates to the general question the views of my Government cannot differ from those of the three other Courts, its Allies; my instructions are founded on that principle. In the special question which forms the object of this Conference, the existing documents ought to point out to us the course and the rules to be observed; now this course and these rules appear to me to be already laid down by the Memorandum of the Conference of London of the 14th of November, and by Lord Palmerston's despatch of the 15th of October. The Memorandum has not yet reached me from my Government; it is the Internuncio who has had the goodness to communicate it to me; I have only received Lord Palmerston's despatch which is mentioned, and I conceive that I shall conform to the meaning of these documents by joining, under existing circumstances, in the vote pronounced by the Internuncio.

The Ambassador of England.—The question, I repeat, appears to me to depend upon the fact of the submission of Mehemet Ali, and the Sultan appears to me to be the sole judge in such a question: he alone has the right to decide. If the Sublime Porte informs us that the Sultan has accepted Mehemet Ali's submission, that he is satisfied with it, the orders of my Government enjoin me in such a case to advise the Porte to grant to Mehemet

Ali the hereditary government of Egypt. Until that time, until the Porte communicates to us the decision of the Sultan, I must abstain from giving any advice, any opinion.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs.—There are different kinds of submission. Mehemet Ali might, for example, have come himself, according to our usages, or have sent some one to implore his pardon; but that is not what we mean. The Memorandum requires that Mehemet Ali should restore the fleet, that he should evacuate certain countries. He writes that he will do all this; if he accomplishes these promises, the Sublime Porte will be able to credit his submission, but the letter cannot of itself alone be considered as a real submission.

The Internuncio of Austria.—The letter is a commencement of submission. If the Sublime Porte demands the delivery of the fleet, if Mehemet Ali restores it, and if he evacuates the countries specified in the Memorandum; his submission will certainly be then complete.

The Chargé d'Affaires of Russia.—It is certain that we shall not be able to consider the submission of Mehemet Ali as completed until he shall have restored the fleet, and evacuated the Holy Cities, as well as the other places specified in the Memorandum; but for the present we should abide by the text of the Memorandum and of the instruction addressed by the Admiralty to Admiral Stopford, wherein mention is made of a letter to be delivered by Mehemet Ali to the officer commissioned to notify to him the decision of the Conference of London.

The Internuncio.—What more could Mehemet Ali do? He must begin by saying that he submitted, and he could not at the same instant carry into effect all the conditions of his submission.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, alluding to what the Ambassador of England had said, observes, that up to the present time there had been no question of hereditary succession.

The Internuncio.—I am not at this moment called upon to discuss that point, on which I have no precise instruction; but, the case occurring, I shall conform myself altogether on that matter to what the Ambassador of England shall do.

The Ambassador of England.—For my part, I have precise orders to advise the Porte to grant hereditary succession to Mehemet Ali, so soon as it shall apprize us that the Sultan is satisfied with the submission of Mehemet Ali; but such advice can only be conditional; I have not the right to judge of the reality of the submission, and I must wait, before giving it, for the Sultan to pronounce himself on the fact of the submission.

The Internuncio.—As for me, I must repeat it, I look upon the letter of Mehemet Ali, as a first step towards his submission.

The Ambassador of England.—It will not be in my power to act in the sense of the instructions of my Government, until the Sublime Porte shall have declared that it considers the submission of Mehemet Ali as complete. But I cannot demand of the Sultan any declaration whatever on that matter, for I should think that I trenched upon his rights. It is for His Majesty to decide.

The Envoy of Prussia.—I think, as I have already said, that the Sublime Porte ought not in the present case to act with too great severity, and I must always exhort it to act with moderation.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs.—The Porte has never wished to act with severity; facts have already proved it. It does not wish to do so even now. It wishes, on the contrary, to act in concert with its Allies; and although it

is doubtless for the Sultan to decide on the submission of Mehemet Ali, nevertheless, as his Allies have declared their intentions in the Memorandum, I have thought it right to consult their Representatives to know whether Mehemet Ali's proceeding is in conformity with the spirit of the Memorandum: but, since their opinions are at variance, they might refer to the decision of the Conference of London.

The Internuncio.—But there is no variance between us; we all think that Mehemet Ali's submission, in order that it should be complete, must be followed by the execution of the conditions which are imposed upon him. I think, moreover, that to refer the question to the decision of the Conference of London would be to appeal from the Conference to the Conference, and lose time in useless adjournments.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs.—I think that Mehemet Ali must first execute the conditions imposed upon him; as for the hereditary succession, that is another question upon which I am not prepared to explain myself.

The Internuncio once more declares, that when the time arrives, he will concur in the steps of the Ambassador of England on that point, and the *Envoy of Prussia* makes the same declaration.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs.—You are aware, gentlemen, that on his accession to the throne the Sultan had granted to Mehemet Ali the hereditary administration of Egypt; he rejected that favour. Still later, with the view of sparing the shedding of blood, the Treaty of July 15 granted it to him; Mehemet Ali equally rejected it. It was necessary to have recourse to measures of coercion, and the Sultan withdrew this favour from him. At present it appears to me that there can no longer be a question of a right in favour of Mehemet Ali, and the Sultan is free to take his decision on this point.

The Representatives unanimously admitted that the Sultan possesses his entire freedom of action in this respect, and that Mehemet Ali could not appeal to any right.

The Envoy of Prussia added, that any concession in favour of Mehemet Ali could only be considered as an effect of the Sultan's generosity; for the independence of His Highness is the object of the Convention of July 15; but the more advantageous the Sultan's position is at the present time, the more will it perhaps allow him to be generous.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs.—Since Mehemet Ali has rejected the Treaty of July 15, that Treaty no longer exists for him, and other conditions might be imposed on Mehemet Ali.

The Internuncio.—But the Treaty continues to exist for us.

The Ambassador of England.—I declare that, in my opinion, Mehemet Ali has now no right; that the Sultan is master to take the course which he shall consider fitting, and that we can only afford him our advice.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, addressing himself to the Internuncio, says to him: Your Excellency began by saying, that if the Sultan is satisfied with the letter of Mehemet Ali, his submission ought to be accepted. But Mehemet Ali has already written a thousand letters of the same kind. Can any faith be placed in his letters? It is evident besides that there is some trick even in this last letter. For example, he speaks of Commodore Napier's Convention, which is a void Act, in order to come to the subject of hereditary succession.

The Internuncio.—That is true; but this letter, given in consequence of a summons made to him by the English Admiral in the name of the Four Powers, cannot be compared to all those which he has addressed of his own accord to the Sublime Porte, and specifically to Hosrew Pasha.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs.—You understand, gentlemen, that in any case it is necessary that the Porte should have time to reflect upon this matter.

The Internuncio.—Assuredly, an affair of this kind cannot be concluded in a day; it is, doubtless, necessary that your Excellency should be able to concert with your Colleagues, and take the orders of the Sultan.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs observes, that having to submit to the Council and to the Sultan his report on the Conference of this day, he is desirous of knowing, definitively, what is the conclusion which he should communicate to them.

The Representatives reply that their opinion being recorded in the present Protocol, they refer themselves to it.

The Ambassador of England.—I repeat that I must wait for the decision of the Sultan to give the advice which is enjoined to me by the orders of my Government.

The Internuncio observes once again how much it would be to be regretted if the Porte should not conform with promptitude to the wish expressed by the Allied Courts in the Memorandum of the 14th of November.

No. 126.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 16, 1841.)

My Lord, *Therapia, December* 23, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a translation of Mehemet Ali's letter to the Grand Vizier, which is more correct than that I sent in my despatch of the 16th instant; and the translation of a letter from Mehemet Ali to the Military Governor of Candia, which letter is mentioned in Captain Fanshawe's report to me (forwarded to your Lordship), but which was not in my hands till yesterday.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 126.

Mehemet Ali to the Grand Vizier.

(Traduction.)

Après les titres d'usage. Le 17 Chewal, 1256 / Le 11 Dec., 1840

MONSIEUR LE COMMODORE NAPIER de la flotte Britannique m'a fait savoir par une dépêche datée de devant Alexandrie le 22 Novembre, N. S., que les Grandes Puissances Alliées ont prié la Sublime Porte de m'octroyer le Gouvernement héréditaire de l'Egypte aux conditions par elles établies, savoir: que je rendrai la flotte Impériale qui se trouve dans le Port d'Alexandrie, et que les troupes Egyptiennes se retireront de la Syrie, et rentreront en Egypte.

M. le Commodore a demandé que l'on mît de la diligence à préparer la flotte pour qu'elle soit rendue, et à faire retirer les troupes de la Syrie.

Après une certaine correspondance et quelques pourparlers avec le Commodore sur cette affaire, ces conditions ont été acceptées, et un Acte authentique, faisant voir que l'on s'attend à ce que la faveur de celui qui est l'ombre de Dieu, soit accordée, et servant de document à l'une et l'autre partie, a été conclu et signé.

En conséquence, j'ai écrit à mon fils Ibrahim Pacha, votre serviteur, de venir tout de suite en Egypte avec les troupes Egyptiennes qui sont réunies à Damas, et avec ses employés et autres gens, et je lui ai même envoyé à cet effet un homme exprès que j'ai fait partir sur un bateau à vapeur que M. le Commodore a procuré.

Je viens maintenant de recevoir d'Ibrahim Pacha, voie de terre, une dépêche en date du 1er Ramazan (le 27 Octobre), d'après laquelle il devait se mettre en route, avec tout son monde, de Damas, le 3 ou le 4 Chewal (le 28 ou le 29 Novembre). Ainsi, l'on doit regarder comme positif qu'il s'est mis en route à l'époque annoncée.

Et voici que sur ces entrefaites, je reçois de l'Amiral de la flotte Britannique, son Excellence Sir R. Stopford, une dépêche officielle écrite à la hauteur de Chypre, le 6 Décembre, et conçue dans le sens ci-dessous énoncé. M. l'Amiral m'a envoyé, en même tems, copie des instructions qu'il avait reçues de la part de son Excellence Lord Palmerston. Je vois par cette communication qu'il a été stipulé que je dois renouveler ma soumission à la Sublime Porte, en rendant la flotte impériale, et en faisant évacuer par les troupes Egyptiennes la Syrie, Adana, la Crète, le Hedjaz, et les deux Villes Saintes.

Je reconnais que l'obtention de mon pardon, que ma rentrée dans les bonnes grâces de mon Souverain et maître, au service duquel je saisis cette occasion de consacrer ma fortune et ma vie, et la gracieuse acceptation par Sa Majesté Impériale de ma très-humble soumission, sont les effets des nobles efforts des Hautes Puissances Alliées; et parfaitement reconnaissant pour tout cela, j'ai pris des mesures pour la restitution de la flotte impériale. On travaille avec activité à mettre les vaisseaux en bon état; et à la réception d'un firman faisant connaître de quelle manière il aura plu à Sa Majesté Impériale que la flotte soit consignée et expédiée, je m'empresserai de me conformer à la volonté souveraine en mettant le dit firman à exécution.

Egalement, comme je suis prêt à retirer tous les employés Egyptiens qui se trouvent dans l'Ile de Candie, dans le Hedjaz, et dans les deux Villes Saintes, à l'arrivée d'un firman de Sa Majesté Impériale à cet égard, les endroits ci-dessus mentionnés seront évacués sans délai par les employés Egyptiens.

Ainsi donc, lorsque votre Altesse aura, s'il plait à Dieu, pris connaissance de ma prompte soumission, effectuée comme ci-dessus, elle voudra bien la mettre aux pieds de la clémence de mon très-auguste et très-puissant Souverain et maître, dont je suis tant fier et tant orgueilleux d'être le serviteur fidèle et soumis, et employer ses bons offices afin de faire éprouver sans cesse les effets de la clémence souveraine à un homme avancé en âge et fidèle, qui a vieilli à son service.

Celui qui peut ordonner, ordonnera.

(L.S.) MEHEMET ALI

(Translation.)

After the usual Titles, 17 Chewal, 1256 / December 11, 1840

COMMODORE NAPIER, of the British fleet, informed me by a despatch dated from before Alexandria, the 22nd of November, N.S., that the Great Allied Powers have requested the Sublime Porte to grant me the hereditary Government of Egypt, on the conditions laid down by them; that is, that I shall give up the Imperial fleet which is in the Port of Alexandria, and that the Egyptian troops shall retire from Syria, and re-enter Egypt.

The Commodore required that diligence should be used in preparing the fleet, in order to its being delivered up, and in withdrawing the troops from Syria.

After some correspondence and some discussions with the Commodore on this matter, these conditions were accepted, and an authentic Act, manifesting that it is expected, that the favour of him who is the shadow

of God, should be granted, and serving as a document to both parties, was concluded and signed.

In consequence, I wrote to my son, Ibrahim Pasha, your servant, to come immediately to Egypt with the Egyptian troops concentrated at Damascus, and with the persons in his employment, and others, and I even sent to him a person expressly for this purpose, whom I despatched in a steam-vessel procured by the Commodore.

I have just received from Ibrahim Pasha, overland, a despatch dated the 1st of Ramazan, (October 27,) according to which, he was to set out, with all his people, from Damascus, the 3rd or 4th of Chewal (the 28th or 29th of November). Thus, it may be looked upon as certain that he commenced his march at the specified time.

And now, in the meanwhile, I receive from the Admiral of the British fleet, his Excellency Sir Robert Stopford, an official despatch written off Cyprus, on the 6th of December, and couched in the sense mentioned below. The Admiral sent to me, at the same time, a copy of the instructions which he had received from his Excellency Lord Palmerston. I see by this communication, that it has been stipulated that I must renew my submission to the Sublime Porte, restoring the Imperial fleet, and causing Syria, Adana, Candia, the Hedjaz, and the two Holy Cities, to be evacuated by the Egyptian troops.

I perceive that the obtaining my pardon, that my re-admission into the good graces of my Sovereign and master, to whose service I take this opportunity of dedicating my fortune and my life, and the gracious acceptance by His Imperial Majesty of my most humble submission, are the effects of the noble efforts of the high Allied Powers; and thoroughly grateful for all this, I have taken measures for restoring the Imperial fleet. People are actively employed in putting the vessels into a good state; and on the receipt of a firman, making known in what manner it shall have pleased His Imperial Majesty that the fleet shall be delivered up and despatched, I will hasten to conform myself to the Sovereign will by carrying the said firman into execution.

In like manner, as I am ready to withdraw all the Egyptian authorities who are in the Island of Candia, in the Hedjaz, and in the two Holy Cities, on the arrival of His Imperial Majesty's firman in that respect, the above-mentioned places shall be evacuated without delay by the Egyptian Authorities.

Thus, then, when your Excellency shall, if it please God, have taken cognizance of my prompt submission, carried into effect as above, you will be pleased to lay it at the feet of the clemency of my most august and most powerful Sovereign and Master, of whom I am so proud to be the faithful and submissive servant, and to employ your good offices, in order to cause a man advanced in age, and faithful, who has grown old in his service, to experience without ceasing the effects of his sovereign clemency.

He who can ordain, will ordain.

(L.S.) MEHEMET ALI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 126.

Mehemet Ali to the Muhafiz, Military Governor of Candia.

(Traduction.)

Le 17 Chewal, 1256.
Le 11 Decembre, 1840.

A SON Excellence le Muhafiz de Candie, Pacha très-honoré, mon cher et bien-aimé fils.

Vous savez déjà, parce qu'on vous en a informé il y a quelque tems, que la question qui s'agite actuellement est en voie d'accommodement.

Mais vous saurez aussi que je viens de recevoir de la part de son Excellence Sir Robert Stopford, l'Amiral de la flotte Anglaise, une dépêche officielle, d'après laquelle le Gouvernement héréditaire de l'Egypte va m'être accordé à la prière des Cours Alliées.

Cela étant, et attendu que l'Ile de Crète sera évacuée aussi, il faut que vous vous y prépariez en attendant qu'un firman réglant le mode de l'évacuation arrive de la part de la Sublime Porte, et qu'après cela, vous vous embarquiez pour venir sur les bâtimens que j'enverrai.

Je demande donc que votre Excellence, informée qu'elle sera du contenu de cette lettre, commence les préparatifs de voyage.

(Signé) MEHEMET ALI.

(Translation.)

17*th Chewal.*

TO his Excellency the Muhafiz of Candia, most honoured Pasha, my dear and well-beloved son.

You are already aware, because you have been informed of it some time ago, that the question now in agitation is in the way of being settled.

But you will also know that I have just received from his Excellency Sir Robert Stopford, Admiral of the English fleet, an official despatch, according to which, the hereditary Government of Egypt is about to be granted to me, at the request of the Allied Courts.

That being the case, and seeing that the Island of Candia will also be evacuated, it is necessary that you should make preparations for doing so in expectation of the arrival of a firman on the part of the Sublime Porte, regulating the manner of the evacuation, and that, thereupon, you should embark for this place, in the vessels which I will send.

I require, therefore, that your Excellency, being made acquainted with the contents of this letter, should make preparations for your voyage.

(Signed) MEHEMET ALI.

No. 127.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 12, 1841.)

(Extract.) *Vienna, January* 3, 1841.

I HAVE communicated to Prince Metternich your Lordship's despatch of December 18, addressed to myself, and your despatches to Lord Ponsonby of December 12 and 17, and his Highness has directed the Internuncio to co-operate with Lord Ponsonby in carrying out the instructions conveyed in the above despatches, and to consider them as obligatory upon himself.

No. 128.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 12.)

My Lord, *Vienna, January* 3, 1841.

I AM requested by Prince Metternich to state to your Lordship, that in case the Porte should hesitate to accede to the recommendation of the Allied Powers to confer the hereditary Government of Egypt upon Mehemet Ali, this Court does not admit that the Allies can allow themselves to be compromised by such hesitation. Prince Metternich entertains no doubt of the Porte's deferring to the advice of the Allies, if it be firmly and conjointly urged.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) BEAUVALE.

No. 129.

Lord Clanricarde to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 23, 1841.)

(Extract.) *St. Petersburgh, December* 29, 1840.

THE language which M. de Barante holds to Count Nesselrode, and to myself, is, that the Turkish Question is no wise concluded by Commodore Napier's successes and negotiations, but is only now beginning; that it is impossible to leave Turkey in the state of evident debility into which, he says, that important country has fallen; and that this state of things must be considered by all the Great Powers of Europe, and some provision made against the contingencies, which it renders not improbable. Count Nesselrode replies, that the danger with which Mehemet Ali menaced the Sublime Porte having been averted, and its recurrence guarded against, no occasion exists for other provisional engagements to meet events which appear very remote.

No. 130.

Lord Clanricarde to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 23, 1841.)

(Extract.) *St. Petersburgh, December* 30, 1840.

IN consequence, I believe, of an accident that occurred to the steamboat between Odessa and Constantinople, the last Mail from that capital was sent by land, and only reached this place yesterday; when Count Nesselrode learnt the manner in which the Convention entered into by Commodore Napier and Mehemet Ali was received by the Divan of the Sublime Porte.

The Russian Government will not despatch any instructions to M. Titow thereupon, for fear of adding to the complications and embarrassments in which the final arrangement of the Turco-Egyptian Question has become involved. The Emperor places entire reliance upon the British Government in this difficulty.

Count Nesselrode thinks it unfortunate that the Sultan had not been disposed, or advised, to concede the hereditary government of Egypt to Mehemet Ali.

No. 131.

Count Nesselrode to M. de Titow.—(*Communicated by Baron Brunnow, January* 23, 1841.)

St. Pétersbourg, $\frac{23 \text{ Dec., } 1840}{4 \text{ Janvier, } 1841}$.

JE me suis empressé de placer sous les yeux de l'Empereur votre expédition du 28 Novembre, par laquelle vous nous avez rendu compte des derniers événemens qui viennent de se passer à Alexandrie, ainsi que de la détermination de la Porte de refuser sa sanction à l'arrangement conclu par le Commodore Napier.

Il est certain qu'il n'appartient qu'à Sa Hautesse de déterminer en dernier ressort l'étendue des sacrifices qu'il lui convient de faire, pour assurer la pacification de son Empire, et ce Souverain ne doit point douter que l'Empereur désire sincèrement que cette pacification ait lieu aux conditions les moins défavorables pour la Porte.

Mais, plus notre Auguste Maître a à cœur de défendre les intérêts du Sultan, et plus aussi Sa Majesté Impériale croirait manquer à l'amitié qu'elle lui porte, si elle ne l'engageait sérieusement, dans ce moment décisif, à envisager avec calme et modération la situation actuelle des choses, et à se défendre contre des illusions et des espérances qui pourraient ne pas se réaliser en définitif.

Il y a encore peu de mois, à l'époque même de la signature de la Convention de $\frac{3}{15}$ Juillet, que la Porte n'aurait pu se flatter de réduire en si peu de tems Méhémet Ali à l'impuissance à laquelle il se voit condamné aujourd'hui, et il est à peine permis de douter qu'elle se serait empressée naguères de lui accorder l'hérédité, si, par ces moyens, elle avait pu accélérer, dans l'intérêt de la paix générale, un arrangement définitif.

Depuis, les opérations militaires des Alliés en Syrie ont été couronnées par les succès les plus décisifs. Néanmoins, lorsque la Porte, dans un moment d'irritation, s'est déterminée à prononcer la déchéance de Méhémet Ali, les Puissances n'ont pas hésité à exposer leur opinion à cet égard, et à faire connaître les conditions auxquelles il leur semblait que le Sultan ne devait pas hésiter à réintégrer le Pacha dans l'administration héréditaire de l'Egypte.

Il est vrai sans doute que la Porte n'a jamais reçu jusqu'à présent une communication officielle des conseils que les Puissances Alliées avaient cru devoir lui adresser, mais la Porte connait parfaitement la nature et la tendance des instructions du 15 Octobre, qui ont acquis une publicité Européenne: elle est également informée des déterminations arrêtées le 14 Novembre à Londres, et de la démarche qui a été prescrite à Sir R. Stopford, et qui n'avait d'autre but que d'assurer l'effet des instructions précédentes.

Il serait aujourd'hui impossible aux Quatre Puissances Alliées de revenir sur leurs déclarations antérieures. Déjà le Cabinet Britannique n'a pas hésité un instant à se prononcer en faveur des avantages qui résultent de la cessation des hostilités entre la Porte et Méhémet Ali; mais tout en appréciant le but que s'était proposé le Commodore Napier, en prenant sur sa propre responsabilité d'accélérer la soumission du Pacha; tout en approuvant l'ensemble des conditions que cet officier lui a imposées; le Cabinet de Londres n'a pas cru assumer sur lui une garantie formelle, relativement au droit d'hérédité que le Sultan conférerait à Méhémet Ali.

Nous avons l'intime conviction que les autres Puissances adhéreront avec empressement à cette opinion de l'Angleterre; aucune d'elles ne voudra en effet se charger d'une garantie, qui deviendrait aussi onéreuse pour ces Puissances, qu'elle serait incompatible avec les droits de souveraineté de Sa Hautesse.

Il ne nous reste donc qu'à émettre le vœu que les Représentans des Cours Alliées à Constantinople soient mis à même de s'acquitter promptement des instructions dont ils ont été munis précédemment, en conseillant à la Porte de révoquer la déchéance de Méhémet Ali, et de lui accorder sa grâce avec la promesse d'hérédité, dans le cas où il remplirait sans plus de retard les autres conditions de sa soumission. Dans cette même hypothèse, il appartiendrait à la Porte d'apporter à cet acte d'investiture les restrictions contenues dans les Articles III., IV., V., et VI., de la Convention de Londres, et développées avec beaucoup de sagacité et de précision dans une dépêche du Prince de Metternich, adressée en tout dernier lieu à l'Internonce d'Autriche.

Du reste, au milieu de l'incertitude où nous nous trouvons encore sur les mesures que l'Amiral Anglais a prises, à la suite des instructions qui lui ont été transmises le 14 Novembre, ainsi que sur les déterminations ultérieures que Méhémet Ali aura adoptées en conséquence des nouvelles ouvertures qui lui auront été faites, nous nous trouvons dans l'impossibilité de vous donner des directions plus étendues que celles que vous recevez par la présente: au surplus, elles nous semblent assez précises, pour ne vous laisser aucun doute sur l'esprit dans lequel nous désirerions voir agir les Quatre Représentans à Constantinople, afin d'amener la Porte à prendre des déterminations sages et modérées, et conformes aux conjonctures actuelles.

Le Cabinet de Londres parait plus que jamais pénétré de l'urgence de seconder, par tous les moyens possibles, la pacification de l'Orient et de faire cesser les doutes que le Divan parait avoir sur les véritables intentions des Alliés. Veuillez donc bien, Monsieur, vous associer à Lord Ponsonby, pour tenir aux Ministres de la Porte le langage que Lord Pal-

merston vient de prescrire à l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre, et qui, nous n'en doutons point, sera également appuyé par les Représentans d'Autriche et de Prusse.

Nous aimons à croire que le Sultan saura apprécier nos conseils comme ils méritent de l'être, et que, pénétrée de l'importance de rétablir un moment plus tôt la paix dans toute l'étendue de son Empire, et de prévenir désormais la possibilité d'un nouveau conflit, dont il serait difficile de calculer les diverses chances, Sa Hautesse s'empressera de suivre les avis bienveillans et désintéressés de ses Alliés, et contribuera ainsi à hâter la fin de la crise actuelle.

Recevez, Monsieur, l'assurance de ma considération distinguée.

(Signé) NESSELRODE.

(Translation.)

Sir, *St. Petersburgh*, $\frac{\text{Dec. 23, 1840}}{\text{Jan. 4, 1841}}$.

I LOST no time in laying before the Emperor your despatch of the 28th of November, in which you reported to us the late events which have taken place at Alexandria, as well as the determination of the Porte to refuse its sanction to the arrangement concluded by Commodore Napier.

It certainly belongs to His Highness alone to determine finally the extent of the sacrifices which it is expedient for him to make, in order to secure the pacification of his Empire, and that Sovereign ought not to doubt that the Emperor desires sincerely that that pacification may be effected upon conditions as little unfavourable as possible to the Porte.

But, the more our August Master has at heart the defence of the interests of the Sultan, the more would His Imperial Majesty consider himself as failing in the friendship which he bears to His Highness, if he did not seriously recommend him, at this decisive moment, to consider with calmness and moderation the present posture of affairs, and to be on his guard against illusions and hopes which in the end may never be realized.

But a few months since, even at the period of the signature of the Convention of July $\frac{3}{15}$, the Porte could not have hoped in so short a time to have reduced Mehemet Ali to the powerless state to which he is now reduced; and it is hardly to be doubted, that it would a little while ago have granted to him the hereditary succession, if it had been possible for it by that means to hasten a definitive arrangement, in the interests of general peace.

The military operations of the Allies in Syria have, since, been crowned with the most decided success. Nevertheless, when the Porte in a moment of irritation, determined to pronounce the deprivation of Mehemet Ali, the Powers did not hesitate to declare their opinion upon the subject, and to make known the conditions upon which it appeared to them that the Sultan should not hesitate to reinstate the Pasha in the hereditary administration of Egypt.

It is certainly true that the Porte has never hitherto received an official communication of the advice which the Allied Powers thought it their duty to tender to it, but the Porte is perfectly aware of the nature and tendency of the instructions of the 15th of October, which have acquired European publicity; it is equally acquainted with the measures determined upon on the 14th of November in London, and with the step which Sir R. Stopford was instructed to take, and the only object of which was to secure the execution of the preceding instructions.

It would now be impossible for the Four Allied Powers to retract their former declarations. Already the British Cabinet has not hesitated an instant to declare itself in favour of the advantages which result from the cessation of hostilities between the Porte and Mehemet Ali; but while it fully appreciates the object which Commodore Napier had in view, in undertaking upon his own responsibility to hasten the submission of the Pasha; while it fully approves of all the conditions which that officer has imposed upon him; the Cabinet of London has not thought fit to take upon

itself a formal guarantee with respect to the right of hereditary succession which the Sultan might confer upon Mehemet Ali.

We are firmly convinced that the other Powers will readily adhere to this opinion of England; not one of them will, in fact, take upon itself a guarantee, which would become as burdensome for those Powers, as it would be incompatible with His Highness's rights of Sovereignty.

It only remains, then, for us to express the wish that the Representatives of the Allied Courts at Constantinople may be enabled promptly to execute the instructions with which they were formerly furnished, by advising the Porte to revoke the deprivation of Mehemet Ali, and to grant him pardon with the promise of hereditary succession, in case he should fulfil, without further delay, the other conditions of his submission. In such a contingency, it would be for the Porte to apply to this act of investiture the restrictions contained in Articles III., IV., V., and VI. of the Convention of London, and set forth with much judgment and precision in a despatch lately addressed by Prince Metternich to the Austrian Internuncio.

In other respects, in the uncertainty in which we still are with regard to the steps which the English Admiral may have taken, in pursuance of the instructions which were transmitted to him on the 14th of November, as well as with regard to the further resolutions which Mehemet Ali may have adopted in consequence of the fresh overtures which have been made to him, it is impossible for us to give you more detailed instructions than those which you receive in this despatch; moreover, they appear to us to be sufficiently precise not to leave you in any doubt as to the spirit in which we are desirous that the Four Representatives at Constantinople should act, in order to induce the Porte to come to wise and moderate decisions, suitable to existing circumstances.

The Cabinet of London appears to be more than ever impressed with the necessity of furthering, by all possible means, the pacification of the East, and of putting an end to the doubts which the Divan appears to entertain with respect to the real intentions of the Allies. Have the goodness then, Sir, to unite with Lord Ponsonby, in holding to the Ministers of the Porte the language which Lord Palmerston has lately prescribed to the English Ambassador, and which, we have no doubt, will be equally supported by the Representatives of Austria and Prussia.

We are willing to believe that the Sultan will appreciate our advice as it deserves to be appreciated, and that, impressed with the importance of re-establishing peace at the earliest moment throughout the whole extent of his Empire, and of preventing henceforward the possibility of a fresh conflict, of which it would be difficult to calculate the different chances, His Highness will lose no time in following the kind and disinterested advice of his Allies, and will thus contribute to hasten the solution of the present crisis.

Accept, Sir, the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

(Signed) NESSELRODE.

No. 132.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 24, 1841.)

My Lord, *Therapia, December* 30, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of an official Note from the Sublime Porte, stating the appointment of Commissioners to be sent to Mehemet Ali, and also an application to Admiral Sir Robert Stopford, for his aid in removing the Ottoman fleet, if it should be restored by Mehemet Ali to the said Commissioners. I forwarded copy of this Note to Admiral Sir R. Stopford.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure in No. 132.

Rechid Pasha to Viscount Ponsonby.

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, *Sublime Porte, le 27 Décembre*, 1840.

JE me suis empressé de mettre sous les yeux du Sultan le Protocole de la Conférence du 20 de ce mois, et j'ai l'ordre d'informer votre Excellence que Sa Majesté Impériale, voulant constater par un nouvel acte ses sentimens de modération, est disposée à accepter la soumission de Méhémet Ali, et qu'elle n'attend que l'accomplissement des obligations qui lui sont imposées par le Mémorandum de la Conférence de Londres, du 14 Novembre, pour considérer cette soumission comme accomplie, et pour confirmer Méhémet Ali dans le Pachalic de l'Egypte.

Dans le but de hâter cet accomplissement, et de mieux prouver ainsi son désir de s'associer, autant qu'il est en son pouvoir, aux vues de ses Augustes Alliés, le Sultan a décidé que Yaver Pacha (l'Amiral Walker) et Mazloum Bey se rendront incessamment en Egypte, en qualité de ses Commissaires, pour recevoir la flotte Ottomane, et pour s'assurer de l'évacuation par les troupes de Méhémet Ali des lieux désignés dans le Mémorandum du 14 Novembre.

J'ai l'ordre de prier, en même tems, votre Excellence de vouloir bien inviter M. l'Amiral de Sa Majesté Britannique à assister, aux termes du paragraphe 4 de l'Acte Séparé de la Convention du 15 Juillet, à la remise qui sera faite de la flotte entre les mains des dits Commissaires.

Recevez, M. l'Ambassadeur, l'assurance de ma haute considération.

(Signé) RECHID,
Ministre des Affaires Etrangères.

(Translation.)

The Sublime Porte,
Monsieur l'Ambassador, *December 27*, 1840.

I HAVE lost no time in laying before the Sultan the Protocol of the Conference of the 20th of this month; and I am commanded to acquaint your Excellency, that His Imperial Majesty, wishing to prove by a fresh act the moderation of his sentiments, is disposed to accept the submission of Mehemet Ali, and only awaits the fulfilment of the conditions imposed upon him by the Memorandum of the 14th of November, to consider that submission as complete, and to confirm Mehemet Ali in the Pashalic of Egypt.

With the view of hastening that fulfilment, and of thus proving more clearly his desire to lend himself, as far as is in his power, to the views of his august Allies, the Sultan has decided that Yaver Pasha (Admiral Walker) and Mazloum Bey shall proceed immediately to Egypt as his Commissioners to receive the Ottoman fleet, and to ascertain that the places described in the Memorandum of the 14th of November are evacuated by the troops of Mehemet Ali.

I am commanded at the same time to request your Excellency will have the goodness to instruct Her Britannic Majesty's Admiral to assist according to the 4th paragraph of the Separate Act of the Convention of the 15th of July, at the restoration of the fleet to the said Commissioners.

Receive, &c.,
(Signed) RECHID,
Minister for Foreign Affairs.

No. 133.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 24, 1841.)

My Lord, *Therapia, December* 30, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a correspondence between this Embassy and Captain Fanshawe, and I have the honour to report that Captain Fanshawe left Constantinople yesterday for Marmorice, and was the bearer to Admiral Sir Robert Stopford of a copy of the official Note inclosed in my preceding despatch.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 133.

Mr. Doyle to Captain Fanshawe.

Sir, *Therapia, December* 26, 1840.

I AM desired by Lord Ponsonby to inform you, that he has this evening received from the Ottoman Minister a message, asking him whether or not Commissioners, who are about to be sent by the Sublime Porte to Alexandria, can have a passage in the "Stromboli" to that port.

I am desired further to say, that the Ottoman Ministry wish for an answer to the above inquiry tomorrow morning, and that Lord Ponsonby hopes it may be convenient to you to send a reply at an early hour to the house of Mr. Frederick Pisani in Pera, so that it may be forwarded to Therapia without delay. The Minister has not told Lord Ponsonby on what day the Porte will be ready to despatch the Commissioners, but it is to be supposed it will be very soon.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 133.

Captain Fanshawe to Mr. Doyle.

Her Majesty's Ship "Stromboli,"
Sir, *Constantinople, December* 27, 1840, 9 A.M.

IN reply to the letter which I have just received from you, I have to request that you will acquaint his Excellency Lord Ponsonby, that Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Stromboli" not being fitted for the conveyance of passengers, and therefore without spare cabins, and as I do not know the rank or number of the Commissioners whom the Sublime Porte is desirous of sending to Alexandria, or the length of time they may be required to remain on board of her there in quarantine, I am unable to say that they would have such accommodation as they may desire, though, of course, if his Excellency makes the requisition for their passage, specifying the rank and number of the persons going, I will give Captain Williams directions to prepare the best accommodation he can for them.

I beg also to state that my orders are to rejoin the Admiral Commander-in-Chief at Marmorice, in my way back to Alexandria, should my return thither be required.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) ARTHUR FANSHAWE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 133.

Mr. Doyle to Captain Fanshawe.

Sir, *Therapia, December* 27, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day's date, which I have communicated to his Excellency Lord Ponsonby, who begs me to say that it is not in his power to give you the information you require, but that he has forwarded your letter to the Ottoman Minister, and will make you acquainted with the reply as soon as possible.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 133.

Mr. Doyle to Captain Fanshawe.

Sir, *Therapia, December* 28, 1840.

I AM desired by Lord Ponsonby to acquaint you that he has this moment received an official communication from the Ottoman Minister, saying, that in consequence of the difficulty there would be in arranging the conveyance of the Ottoman Commissioners in Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Stromboli" to Alexandria, the Porte has ordered a Turkish steamer for that purpose.

The Minister has expressed in the name of the Porte the obligation felt for the friendly disposition of Her Majesty's Government as it is manifested in the assistance that has been afforded on this occasion.

I am further directed by Lord Ponsonby to say, that the Sublime Porte having decided upon adopting the above-mentioned mode of acting, he is not aware of anything within his competency, which can be the cause of your detention here. Lord Ponsonby will take the liberty of sending you a letter for the Admiral.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 133.

M. F. Pisani to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Péra, le* 28 *Décembre*, 1840.

J'AI l'honneur d'informer votre Excellence que j'ai communiqué à M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères la lettre de M. le Capitaine Fanshawe à M. Doyle, en date d'hier; et que M. le Ministre m'a chargé de faire savoir à votre Excellence, que comme il voit par la lettre de M. le Capitaine qu'il y a des difficultés pour le passage des Commissaires Ottomans sur le "Stromboli" pour Alexandrie, la Porte les y enverra sur un bateau à vapeur de la Marine Impériale Turque.

Je suis, &c.,
(Signé) F. PISANI.

(Translation.)

My Lord, *Pera, December* 28, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I have communicated to the Minister for Foreign Affairs Captain Fanshawe's letter of yesterday to Mr. Doyle; and that the Minister has directed me to inform

your Excellency, that as he perceives from Captain Fanshawe's letter that there is a difficulty in affording to the Ottoman Commissioners a passage to Alexandria in the "Stromboli," the Porte will send them in a steam-vessel of the Imperial Turkish navy.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) F. PISANI.

No. 134.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, January* 26, 1841.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency a copy* of a despatch from Her Majesty's Ambssador at Vienna, respecting the instructions about to be given by Prince Metternich to the Internuncio on the Eastern Question. I take for granted that the steps mentioned in my despatch of the 17th of December, have long since been carried into effect.

With reference, however, to the Protocol of the Conference held between your Excellency and your Colleagues and Rechid Pasha, on the 20th of December, of which a copy was inclosed in your despatch of the 16th instant, I have to state to your Excellency that I cannot disapprove of your having declined to take upon yourself the responsibility of declaring that Mehemet Ali's letter to the Grand Vizier, brought by Captain Fanshawe, unaccompanied by any acts of fulfilment, should be deemed and accepted as a complete submission; but the advice prescribed by my instructions to your Excellency of the 15th of October might have been given; with a recommendation, not that such advice should be immediately acted upon, but that it should be carried into execution by the Porte, as soon as the good faith of Mehemet Ali's submission shall have been proved by facts.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 135.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received January 25.)

My Lord, *Vienna, January* 17, 1841.

THE Internuncio's despatches of the 30th ultimo from Constantinople, brought intelligence that the Commissioners destined for Alexandria would not be empowered to give any assurance as to the right of hereditary succession in Mehemet Ali's family, and that their arrival at that port would be delayed as much as possible, in order to give time for military operations against Ibrahim Pasha and for insurrections in Egypt.

In consequence of this intelligence, Prince Metternich sent despatches to Prince Esterhazy, by which he announces that Austria remains firm to her pledge of obtaining the grant of hereditary succession for Mehemet Ali, and that a refusal on the part of the Porte to grant it, would cause this country to withdraw its moral and material support from the Sultan; adding, that after the submission of Mehemet Ali, there could be no further ground for attacking Ibrahim Pasha; that the only possible question with regard to his force would be as to the mode of withdrawing it from Syria; and that any attack upon him, or any insurrection in Egypt, would be disapproved and disavowed by Austria.

Copies of these despatches will be forwarded this day to the Internuncio to serve for his guidance. Admiral Bandeira has long since been instructed to take no part in any attack upon the coast of Egypt, and by this occasion he will be further directed to decline giving assistance to operations against Ibrahim Pasha.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) BEAUVALE.

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* See No. 137.

No. 136.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 25.)

(Extract.) *Vienna, January* 17, 1841.

DESPATCHES received yesterday have led Prince Metternich to think that the British Government has not employed the means in its power to induce the Porte to grant hereditary succession to the family of Mehemet Ali, but has abstained from doing so, in the hope that events might arise which would render such a measure unnecessary.

No. 137.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received January* 25.)

My Lord, *Vienna, January* 17, 1841.

PRINCE METTERNICH has just shown me a draft of a despatch to the Internuncio, in which, after recapitulating the substance of the despatches sent by Prince Nicholas Esterhazy, he directs him to call his Colleagues together, and making them acquainted with the resolutions of the Austrian Cabinet, to call upon them to concur in steps calculated to give effect to the decisions taken in the centre of London, and stated in your Lordship's despatch of 17th December last, to Lord Ponsonby.

If it should be impossible to induce all the Representatives to act in common, the Internuncio is directed, in that case, to state to the Divan the determination of Austria; leaving it open to such of the other Ministers as may think fit, to make similar declarations. I have good reason to think that the Russian and Prussian Ministers will act with the Internuncio. The Prince is employed in drawing up a further instruction to the Internuncio which he has promised to show me, but I shall not detain Lord Napier for the purpose of giving an account of it. I expect it to contain instructions as to the representations to be made to the Divan. I shall not fail to acquaint Lord Ponsonby, by the Austrian courier, with what is passing.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) BEAUVALE.

No. 138.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Beauvale.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, January* 26, 1841.

YOUR Excellency's despatches to the 17th instant, have been received and laid before the Queen.

With reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 17th instant, stating that the Internuncio's despatches of the 30th ultimo had brought intelligence that the Commissioners destined for Alexandria would not be empowered to give any assurance as to the right of hereditary succession in Mehemet Ali's family, and that their arrival at that port would be delayed as much as possible, I have to inform your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government do not know what instructions or authority the Porte has given to the Commissioners whom it has sent to Alexandria; but the Austrian Government has been entirely misinformed as to the delay which it supposes the Porte to intend to practise in regard to sending those Commissioners. For, in the first place, the Porte applied on the 26th ultimo, through Lord Ponsonby, to Captain Fanshawe, for an immediate passage for those Commissioners in Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Stromboli," and it was only because Captain Fanshawe stated that he had no means of accommodating them, and that he was obliged to go in the

first instance to Marmorice Bay, that the Commissioners did not at once proceed in the "Stromboli." But the Porte, upon considering the statement made by Captain Fanshawe, determined to send them in a vessel of its own; and so little foundation is there for the assertion made to your Excellency by the Austrian Government, that the Porte would delay as much as possible the arrival of the Commissioners at Alexandria, that I have this morning seen a letter from Sir Robert Stopford to Lord Minto, dated Marmorice Bay, the 13th of January, being four days antecedent to the date of your Excellency's despatch, in which Sir Robert Stopford states that the Turkish Commissioners had already at that time arrived at Marmorice, and had left it again for Alexandria, and Sir Robert added that he had sent Commodore Napier with them to Alexandria, to superintend the arrangements for the restoration of the Turkish fleet.

Prince Metternich must therefore have been strangely misinformed upon these matters.

With respect to the orders given to the Austrian frigates at Marmorice Bay, not to take any part in any attack upon Egypt, and not to aid any operations against Ibrahim Pasha, I have to observe, first, that it has long been well explained by me to Prince Esterhazy, and of course through him to Prince Metternich, that if Her Majesty's Government should at any time think that the course of events rendered it expedient that Her Majesty's Squadron should attack Alexandria, such a measure would, in the first instance, in conformity with the engagements contracted by each of the Four Powers by the Convention of the 15th of July, be submitted to the consideration of the Conference at London; and secondly, that as the army of Ibrahim was, when last heard of, at Damascus, and about to retreat to Egypt by the inland road through the Desert, it could not be very probable that the assistance of the Austrian frigates could be asked for in support of any attack which the Turkish army of Syria might make upon the retreating forces of the Egyptians.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 139.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Beauvale.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, January* 26, 1841.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 17th instant, stating that despatches received at Vienna on the 16th of January, have led Prince Metternich to think that the British Government has not employed the means in its power to induce the Porte to grant hereditary tenure in Egypt to Mehemet Ali, but has abstained from doing so; and I have to observe, that the belief of Prince Metternich in this matter is entirely erroneous.

For what has in this respect been the course pursued by the Two Governments?

The British Government sent of its own accord to Lord Ponsonby the instruction of the 15th of October, and invited the other Three Courts to send similar instructions to their Representatives at Constantinople.

If that invitation had been complied with, the whole matter would, in all probability, have long since been settled. But the Austrian Government took its stand upon a point of étiquette, or, as it represented it, upon an observance of the monarchical principle; and that Government, deeming it unfitting and inexpedient that the Sultan should make another proposition to his subject in the manner contemplated by the instruction of the 15th of October, suggested a different course of proceeding, and declined to give to the Internuncio instructions corresponding with those of the 15th of October to Lord Ponsonby. Thus, on that occasion, it was Austria, and not England, which abstained from using the means

in its power to persuade the Porte to grant hereditary tenure to Mehemet Ali.

The British Government, anxious to adopt, whenever it properly can, the views of Austria, consented, at the suggestion of Prince Metternich, to suspend the execution of the instruction of the 15th of October, and sent, on the 14th of November, a different instruction to Sir Robert Stopford, which instruction was founded upon a Memorandum drawn up in the Conference; the instruction itself having been fully considered in Conference, and several alterations having been made in it at the suggestion of the Representatives of the Three Powers.

But Lord Ponsonby was still instructed, that whenever the Porte should receive from Mehemet Ali the submission required by the instruction of the 14th of November, he was to give to the Porte, in concert with his Colleagues at Constantinople, the advice prescribed by the instruction of the 15th of October.

Now, it appears by the Protocol of the Conference held at Constantinople, on the 20th of December, between Rechid Pasha and the Representatives of the Four Powers, that Lord Ponsonby formally declared on that day in Conference, that he had positive orders from his Government to give to the Porte advice to grant hereditary tenure to Mehemet Ali, the moment the Porte should state that it was satisfied with Mehemet Ali's submission. But Lord Ponsonby properly, as it appears to me, declined to take upon himself the responsibility of deciding whether the submission of Mehemet Ali was satisfactory and complete or not.

But what, on that occasion, was the course pursued by the Internuncio with respect to the fulness of the submission? He was first of opinion that it was complete, and then of opinion that it was not complete, but only a beginning of submission. But with regard to the advice to be given to the Porte in the event of the submission being to be considered complete, what did he say? Why, first he read a paper which he had previously prepared, in order that his meaning might be perfectly clear and distinct, and that he might express "*toute* la pensée" of his Government, and in that paper he distinctly confined himself to recommending the "re-installation" of Mehemet Ali in his Pashalic of Egypt, without saying one word about hereditary right; and then, afterwards, when Lord Ponsonby stated that he for his part had positive orders to advise the grant of hereditary tenure, the Internuncio distinctly stated that he had no precise instructions on that point, though he added that he would, in virtue of his general instructions, take upon himself to follow the example, in this respect, of the British Ambassador. Thus, then, it appears that the Austrian Government having in October declined, upon a ground of form, to give to the Internuncio the same instructions which Her Majesty's Government had given to Lord Ponsonby upon the question of hereditary tenure, had, though within ten days' reach of Constantinople, left the Internuncio, up to the 20th of December, without any precise instructions for his guidance on this point; and then the Austrian Government, throwing upon the British Government and British agents the blame which belongs wholly to other persons, charges Her Majesty's Government with having purposely abstained from doing that which the Protocol of the 20th of December proves, that the British Government alone out of all the Four had fully and completely done.

No. 140.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Beauvale.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, January* 26, 1841.

WITH reference to my first despatch of this day's date, I have to inform your Excellency that the Ottoman Commissioners arrived at Marmorice on the 8th instant, and that they immediately proceeded to Alexandria.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 141.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Beauvale.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, January* 30, 1841.

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 3rd instant, reporting that you had been requested by Prince Metternich to state to me, that if the Porte should hesitate to accede to the recommendation of the Allied Powers, to confer the hereditary government of Egypt upon Mehemet Ali, the Austrian Court does not admit that the Allies can allow themselves to be committed by such hesitation; I have to instruct your Excellency to state to Prince Metternich, that it seems probable that when that recommendation shall have been given by the Representatives of the Four Powers, the Porte will accede to it; but that, at the date of the last despatches which have been here received from Constantinople, it did not appear that the Austrian, Prussian, and Russian Representatives had received from their Courts instructions to the same effect as those which had been long since sent upon this point to the British Ambassador.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 142.

Sir John Barrow to J. Backhouse, Esq.

Sir, *Admiralty, January* 26, 1841.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you inclosed copy of a letter from Admiral the Honourable Sir Robert Stopford, Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean, with its inclosures from Captain Stewart and General Michell, from which it will appear that Ibrahim Pasha is on his retreat from Damascus by the Mecca road; and I am to request that you will lay the same before Viscount Palmerston.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) J. BARROW.

Inclosure 1 in No. 142.

Admiral Sir Robert Stopford to R. More O'Ferrall, Esq.

"*Princess Charlotte,*"
Sir, *Marmorice, January* 13, 1841.

WITH reference to my letter of yesterday's date I have to acquaint you, that the "Gorgon" has arrived and brought the inclosed despatches from Captain Stewart and General Michell, from which it will appear that Ibrahim Pasha is on his retreat from Damascus by the Mecca road, to which it seems to have been their object to keep him. My orders to Commodore Sir Charles Napier may by this time have been the means of facilitating his retreat; but on this and the state of affairs at Alexandria, I shall take the earliest means of communicating as soon as I receive my despatches.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) ROBERT STOPFORD,
Admiral.

Inclosure 2 in No. 142.

Captain H. Stewart to Admiral Sir Robert Stopford.

British Head-Quarters,
Jaffa, January 10, 1840.

Sir,

BY the arrival of the "Gorgon" here last night, I have received your letters of the 5th and 6th instant. In pursuance of the intention stated to you in my letter of the 2nd instant, I joined Brigadier-General Michell at Acre. We remained there till the 6th, when, in consequence of communications from General Jochmus, the greater part of the Turkish troops prepared to advance on this place, and General Michell prepared to precede them here by steam, taking with him 100 marines under Captain Leonard, Colonel Colquhoun and his party of artillerymen with their guns; at the same time General Michell requested me to send orders for the "Magicienne" to embark Lieutenant-Colonel Higgins and the remainder of the British force at Beyrout, and to bring them to Acre, leaving instructions there for them to come on here, or remain there, as intelligence might render advisable. We reached this in the "Vesuvius" and "Hecate," (the "Dido" following,) on the 6th at sunset; and Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson, R.E. was immediately sent out to Ramla, (three hours distant from this place,) to communicate with Omar Pasha, who was there with a force of 2,500 men, (considerable bodies of Irregular Cavalry being ready to aid him,) intending to menace Gaza.

Omar Pasha was induced to delay his advance upon that place, until he had seen General Michell and myself: and the next day he came on here, when it was agreed to defer his offensive operations on Gaza until the arrival of the Seraskier from Acre, and intelligence from General Jochmus. The latter General reached this from Jerusalem yesterday morning early; and we find that he has given such orders as will complete a line of twenty-eight battalions betwixt this place and Jerusalem, and that all will be in position by sunset this evening. The chief object of this advance seems to be to induce Ibrahim Pasha to retire by the Desert, and not by the coast. We have been somewhat in doubt and suspense as to which road he would retire by; but news reached the Seraskier last night, which is believed to be authentic, stating, that Ibrahim Pasha's vanguard was already thirteen hours' march to the south-east of El-Mezerib, and that, consequently, there was no longer any doubt of his taking the Desert route.

There is still a force of above 3,000 men, chiefly Cavalry, close to Gaza, but it is believed they will very shortly retire. The troops at El-Arish are said to be very few. The Turkish troops, which the Seraskier left at Antioch, Tripoli, &c., are advancing on Damascus, and very shortly the whole of the Ottoman force will be in a situation to advance south as Ibrahim retreats. It is very difficult to get information, and still more so to know how much to believe; but my own opinion and (what is of much more importance) General Michell's opinion is, that Ibrahim is positively evacuating Syria. It will be necessary to make certain of this before we are quite at ease about Acre; and I shall, therefore, keep the "Vesuvius" and "Hecate" here until we are so. So soon as that is the case, I will send "Vesuvius" to take invalid marines and "Zebra's" men as you direct; and in the mean time shall desire the "Dido" to go off to Kaiffa, and embark as many of the "Zebra's" men as she can conveniently; and should there be no apprehension entertained at Acre, the "Dido" will proceed to join you at Marmorice. This place appears to be airy and healthy, and the men have got very wholesome quarters: on that and other considerations, I think the General will probably retain his head-quarters here for the present; so soon as he is quite at ease I shall return to Beyrout, leaving, if possible, the "Hecate" here, should he request it. We have had most beautiful weather; but I have recommended to all the Captains and Commanders to put to sea the moment it threatens to blow, (the sailing ships keeping their courses and topsails reefed, and anchored with a good offing,) and to return when moderate.

It has been reported that Ibrahim retires only with his Egyptians, all the Syrians having either left him or been discharged. He has been throwing out very strong foraging parties from El-Mezerib to considerable distance, which

have terrified the inhabitants and kept us somewhat uneasy, making the acquisition of correct intelligence still more difficult.

I write in very great haste, as the "Gorgon" must leave this by 11 A.M., to insure her reaching your flag on the 13th. The "Gorgon" takes up Dr. Niddy and Lieutenant Sand, R.M., who were apparently at the last extremity at Acre, and saved by Captain Davies kindly agreeing to receive them on board the "Dido," till an opportunity offered for Beyrout or Marmorice. I am happy to say, that there is a most decided improvement in the health of the marines at Acre, since the establishment of the Convalescent Hospital at Abdallah's Palace. It is the General's intention, should he remain here, to have the whole effective force down here; and I shall send all men not strong to Marmorice. Mr. Robertson, Assistant-Surgeon of "Benbow," is moving here with the head-quarters by General Michell's desire; and we brought down the Assistant-Surgeon of the "Zebra" to take charge until Mr. Robertson's arrival.

The "Magicienne" arrived off this place yesterday evening; but Colonel Higgins, his guns and stores, remain on board until we gain perfect information of Ibrahim's retreat, in case it should be advisable to reinforce Acre, which we do not think likely.

The "Hazard" is at Sidon with discretionary power to move to Tyre, should he think Sidon an unsafe anchorage.

General Michell and I are both determined to confine ourselves strictly to precautionary and defensive measures; and we shall use every endeavour to prevail upon our Allies to do the same, and not to obstruct, but rather to facilitate, Ibrahim's retreat.

Lieutenant-Colonel Colquhoun being withdrawn from Acre, the General would be very glad that another Field-Officer was sent to command there. The Deputy Commissary-General has not yet arrived here, and consequently no demand for money from Malta can be forwarded; but I shall speak to him on the subject immediately he comes. Captain Henderson will speak to you, by the General's desire, as to the possibility of its being sent up by your orders without delay, as it is much wanted.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) HOUSTON STEWART,
Captain.

Inclosure 3 in No. 142.

Brigadier-General Michell to Admiral Sir Robert Stopford.

My Dear Sir, *Jaffa, January* 10, 1841.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt, by the "Gorgon" steamer, late last evening, of your communications, public and private, of the 6th of January, together with despatches from London and from Constantinople. It being necessary for the steamer to return to you at Marmorice by the 13th, and therefore to start this morning, there is only time to send, for the purpose you mention, a brief abstract of the military events in Syria up to the present day. My last despatches to Viscount Palmerston and to Viscount Ponsonby are of 31st December and 1st January; and you are already acquainted with the contents of them by means of my letters and those of Captain Houston Stewart.

It will be impossible now to prepare any additional official statements. I must therefore, my dear Sir, beg of you to convey to their Lordships, with my apologies, the substance of the inclosed Memorandum.

It is principally a compendium of General Jochmus's reports and observations. Soliciting your indulgence for the haste and imperfection of my notes,

I have, &c.,
(Signed) EDWARD MICHELL.

P.S.—From the reports of my own staff-officers near the Jordan, I am led to believe that the Egyptian loss upon the march has not been so grea as has been reported to General Jochmus.

Inclosure 4 in No. 142.

Memorandum as to Military Events in Syria.

December 21 *to December* 30, 1840.—ORGANISATION of the *levée en masse* of the whole of Syria south of Beyrout and of Damascus. The mountaineers under arms calculated at 15,000 men, including the Haouran.

December 27, 1840.—El-Mezerib, an advanced post one day's march south of Damascus, abandoned by the Egyptians, and the stores and forage which Ibrahim Pasha had collected there for his retreat by Palestine and Gaza into Egypt, taken by the mountaineers.

December 29, 1840.—Ibrahim Pasha evacuates Damascus; 2,000 Koordish Cavalry desert, besides numerous bodies of Artillery and of Irregular Infantry.

December 30, 1840, *to January* 2, 1841.—Ibrahim Pasha retires through El-Kissoria, and again occupies El-Mezerib; pursued by 2,000 Light Horse under Captain de l'Or, Aide-de-camp to General Jochmus, and experienced heavy losses by desertion, by the sword, and by the severity of the weather.

January 3, 4, 1841.—Ibrahim remains at El-Mezerib to organize his troops and convoys. His plan of moving across the Jordan, through Palestine by Djounie and Ramla, to the coast, frustrated by the Emir Bechir arriving with 7,000 men, 1,500 Light Horse, at Tabaria; and by the defiles of Djounie being occupied by the mountaineers of Naplouse, whilst the regular army of twenty-eight battalions occupies, by a march along the sea-shore, a line from Sidon to Mount Carmel, Jerusalem being also garrisoned.

January 5, 1841.—Ibrahim begins his march into the Desert by the Caravan-road, towards Maan and Suez; his force apparently reduced to 15,000 Infantry, 5,000 Horse, and a park of Artillery of upwards of 100 pieces. He was said before to have 217 guns. He has besides immense convoys, with women, servants, baggage, &c., &c. The son of the Governor of Jerusalem with Baron Dumont, Aide-de-camp to General Jochmus, sent to raise the Bedouins of Gebel Chalil, (Mount Hebron,) and those of the Desert, for the purpose of destroying the forage and provisions at Maan, eight days' march into the Desert.

English staff officers moving with the Mountain Levies of Lebanon, of Naplouse, of Ageloun, and with detached corps of Albanians, &c.; others stationed at Sidon, Tyre, Acre, Jerusalem, Ramla.

The losses of Ibrahim Pasha in killed, prisoners, and deserters have been estimated at 10,000 or 15,000 men up to the period of his leaving El-Mezerib, but correct accounts have not yet been obtained.

A Cavalry camp of 3,000 Egyptians, sent by Mehemet Ali from El-Arish, is still established south of Gaza; but these troops are likely to retire when they hear that Ibrahim marches into the Desert, and not through Palestine or Gaza.

[The above is extracted principally from the reports and observations of General Jochmus.]

December 29 *to* 31, 1840.—British head-quarters transferred from Beyrout to Acre.

January 6, 7, 1841.—British head-quarters moved from Acre and established at Jaffa.

January 9, 1841.—The new Seraskier Zecharia Pasha, General-in-Chief of the Turkish forces, arrives at Jaffa. General Jochmus also comes to Jaffa from the Jordan and from Jerusalem.

Principal points occupied by the Turkish regular forces:—Acre, Jerusalem, Defiles of Djounie, Jaffa, and Ramla.

The troops which crossed the Taurus, or came from the north-east with the new Seraskier, moving southwards, partly through Balbec and Cœlo-Syria, partly by the coast, through Tripoli and Beyrout, towards Acre.

(Signed) EDWARD MICHELL,
Brigadier-General.

No. 143.

Sir John Barrow to J. Backhouse, Esq.

Sir, *Admiralty, January* 26, 1841.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you the inclosed copy of a letter from Admiral the Honourable Sir Robert Stopford, Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean, and of its inclosures, containing information respecting the evacuation of Syria by the troops of Mehemet Ali, and I have to request that you will lay the same before Viscount Palmerston.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) J. BARROW.

Inclosure 1 in No. 143.

Admiral Sir Robert Stopford to R. More O'Ferrall, Esq.

"*Princess Charlotte*,"
Sir, *Marmorice, January* 12, 1841.

IN obedience to their Lordship's directions, signified in your letter of the 15th of December last, to despatch a special steam vessel to Marseilles, with the latest possible intelligence from the Levant, conformably to the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, I have the honour to acquaint you, that immediately on the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant, I despatched the "Gorgon" to Acre, in order to obtain such intelligence from Brigadier-General Michell, who by my last accounts had proceeded thither from Beyrout to watch Ibrahim Pasha's movements, and on her way back to touch at Beyrout, and procure the latest accounts there from Captain Stewart of the "Benbow," stationed at that place in charge of the coast of Syria; and I now hold the "Hydra" in readiness to start for Marseilles agreeably to their Lordships orders, with the further information expected by the "Gorgon."

Captain Fanshawe having returned from Constantinople on the 1st instant, I inclose the reports of his proceedings, and of a letter which I have received through Her Majesty's Ambassador from the Ottoman Minister of Foreign Affairs, calling upon me, in terms of the IVth Article of the "Acte Séparé" of the Convention of the 15th of July last, to assist in the delivering up of the Turkish fleet, if necessary. I accordingly despatched Commodore Sir Charles Napier (his Convention having been approved of by Her Majesty's Government with some exceptions) to Alexandria on the 6th instant, in the "Stromboli," to await the arrival of the Commissioners, with instructions to give every facility in communicating Mehemet Ali's orders for the recall of Ibrahim and the evacuation of Syria, agreeably to a requisition from the former to that effect: and this I did in order to give all possible countenance to a satisfactory settlement of this long-agitated question, as well as to remove any pretence that might be raised against it.

The Ottoman Commissioners arrived here on the 8th, and proceeded on immediately to Alexandria with a letter from me to Commodore Napier, of which I inclose a copy.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) ROBERT STOPFORD,
Admiral.

Inclosure 2 in No. 143.

Captain Fanshawe to Admiral Sir Robert Stopford.

Her Majesty's Steam Vessel "Stromboli,"
Sir, *Constantinople, December* 18, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to report to you that I arrived at Therapia in this vessel, at 1 P.M., on the 16th instant. I immediately waited upon his Excellency Lord Ponsonby, and delivered to him your despatches and the translation of Mehemet Ali's letter to the Vizier, of which I was the bearer. His Lordship gave me to understand that the Sublime Porte was disposed not to accept any proposals from Mehemet Ali, but that some days might elapse before a decision was come to, and that he would inform the Vizier I was arrived with the letter from Mehemet Ali, in order that he might fix a time for receiving me.

I decided therefore on proceeding to Constantinople in the "Stromboli," that she might coal and water, and having addressed the letter to Lord Ponsonby, a copy of which I inclose, came down in her to the Golden Horn, yesterday morning. I have this morning had an interview with his Highness the Vizier, and presented Mehemet Ali's letter to him, and also the one for the Governor of Candia, and repeated to him what had passed between Mehemet Ali and myself, on making known to him the determination of the Allied Powers. His Highness having read the letter, expressed a similar opinion, that no terms with Mehemet Ali would be acceptable to the Porte, and wished me to wait upon Rechid Pacha, the Minister for Foreign Affairs. I told him my duty ended with putting Mehemet Ali's letter into his hands, and that all discussion of the question rested with the Ambassador; but that if the Minister for Foreign Affairs expressed a wish to have any communication with me, I should be ready at any time to wait upon him.

I understand a meeting of the Council of State and the Ambassadors of the Allied Powers is to take place on the 20th, to discuss the question of Egypt.

I await here Lord Ponsonby's directions for my further guidance, and I have the honour, &c.,

(Signed) ARTHUR FANSHAWE,
Captain.

P.S.—Her Majesty's ship "Talbot" is at the Arsenal; also a Turkish ship of the line, a frigate, and a corvette, two brigs, and two schooners preparing for sea; a ship of the line, one brig, and the schooners in a forward state.

The Austrian steamer of war "Marianne" is here, also a Russian schooner and steamer of war; and the French brig "Flèche" is at Therapia.

Inclosure 3 in No. 143.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 124.]

Inclosure 4 in No. 143.

Captain Fanshawe to Admiral Sir Robert Stopford.

Her Majesty Steam Vessel "Stromboli,"
Sir, *off Tenedos, December* 30, 1840.

WITH reference to your orders to me to proceed to Constantinople, and to my letter to you of the 18th instant, I have now the honour to acquaint you hat I had no communication from his Excellency Lord Ponsonby from that date until the 27th, when I received a letter from him, relative to the conveyance of Turkish Commissioners in this vessel to Alexandria; and I beg to inclose you copies of the correspondence that in consequence passed between his Lordship and myself, through Mr. Doyle, on the subject; and also to state, that, in pursuance of the intimation from his Lordship, that he was "not aware

of anything within his competency" which could be the cause of my detention at Constantinople, and having yesterday afternoon received the accompanying despatch from him for you, I quitted the Golden Horn in the "Stromboli" at 9 P.M. yesterday, and am proceeding in her to rejoin you at Marmorice.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) ARTHUR FANSHAWE,
Captain.

Inclosure 5 in No. 143.

[See Inclosure 1 in No. 133.]

Inclosure 6 in No. 143.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 133.]

Inclosure 7 in No. 143.

[See Inclosure 3 in No. 133.]

Inclosure 8 in No. 143.

[See Inclosure 4 in No. 133.]

Inclosure 9 in No. 143.

Viscount Ponsonby to Admiral Sir Robert Stopford.

Sir, *Therapia, December* 28, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your information, copy of a Note I received this evening from the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs, wherein his Excellency refers to paragraph 4 of the Separate Article of the Convention of the 15th of July, and requests the assistance of Her Majesty's Naval Forces as therein specified.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 10 in No. 143.

Rechid Pasha to Viscount Ponsonby.

[See Inclosure in No. 132.]

No. 144.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, January* 29, 1841.

I HAVE to state to your Excellency that Chekib Effendi called on me yesterday, to ask my advice as to what he should write to Rechid Pasha upon the question of giving to Mehemet Ali hereditary tenure in the Pashalic of Egypt,—a grant which, he said, the Porte is extremely desirous of not being

pressed to confer. I told him that, undoubtedly, I could not but admit the force of the objections which have been urged against this grant, and that it would be very much better, both for the interest of the Sultan and for that of his Egyptian subjects, if the Sultan could reserve to himself the same unfettered discretion in the selection of future Governors of Egypt, which he exercises with respect to the choice of Governors for the other provinces of his Empire. But I said, that in all affairs one must be content with what is practicable, and ought not to endanger what has been obtained by striving after that which is unattainable. I said, that it is clear that Mehemet Ali has made his submission in the expectation that he should obtain hereditary tenure in Egypt: now if, after all, this tenure were to be refused to him, what would probably be the consequence?—renewed revolt, or an attitude, at least, of passive resistance. What would then be the remedy? Such a state of things could not be allowed to continue, because if it lasted, it would amount to the separation of Egypt from the Turkish Empire. But the Sultan has not, at present, naval or military means sufficient to enforce his authority, in such a case, over Mehemet Ali in Egypt. The Sultan would, therefore, be obliged to have recourse for aid to his Allies. But the measures hitherto agreed upon by the Four Powers in virtue of the Treaty of July, are confined to the expulsion of the Egyptians from Syria, Arabia, and Candia, and to the driving of Mehemet Ali's forces and authorities back within the limits of Egypt. If, then, the Sultan were to apply to the Four Powers for assistance to attack Mehemet Ali in Egypt itself, a new deliberation of the Conference would become necessary.

Now, I said to Chekib, I could tell him beforehand what would be the result of that deliberation, if the assistance asked for by the Sultan were required in consequence of the Sultan's refusal to comply with the advice given him by the Four Powers, to confer upon Mehemet Ali hereditary tenure of his Egyptian Pashalic. I said I knew perfectly well that the Four Powers would decline giving the Sultan such assistance; and what then would happen? Why, the Sultan would, in consequence, find himself, for want of sufficient means of his own, obliged to grant to Mehemet Ali with a bad grace, and after an ineffectual attempt to avoid doing so, that which he might now make a merit of conferring willingly; and thus, instead of performing, as he now may do, an act of Sovereign Power at the suggestion of his Allies, he would appear to all the world as making an extorted concession to a subject.

I said that I would not attempt to represent as being of no value or importance a sacrifice which is unquestionably a great one, because such a representation could not convince the Sultan. But I begged Chekib Effendi to request his Government to consider the immense importance of the moral and physical strength which the Sultan has gained by the events of the last few months, and to remember that all which the Sultan has gained, Mehemet Ali has lost. That thus their relative positions have been so entirely changed, that the Pasha can never again become really dangerous or seriously troublesome to the Sultan, if the Sultan avails himself properly of the stipulations of the Treaty of July; and if he shall well organize his army, navy, and finances, and shall place those branches of his public service upon an efficient footing. I desired Chekib Effendi to bear in mind that the Sultan has recovered, for his direct authority, the whole of Syria, Arabia, and Candia; points which, with reference to military, naval, financial, and religious considerations, are of the utmost importance, and for the recovery of which the Sultan would, at this time last year, have gladly made very considerable sacrifices. I further reminded him, that a faithful execution of that stipulation of the Treaty of July, which says, that all the laws and treaties of the Empire are to apply to Egypt as to any other province, will afford a most essential security for the sovereign authority of the Sultan. I therefore requested Chekib Effendi to urge his Government to conclude this matter without further delay, because it is of great importance for all parties concerned, that it should be brought to a final settlement as soon as possible.

Chekib Effendi promised me to write to Rechid Pasha to this effect, and he said that he had no doubt that the Sultan will comply with the advice of his Allies.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 145.

Note from the Plenipotentiaries of Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia, to Chekib Effendi.

LES Soussignés, Plénipotentiaires des Cours d'Autriche, de la Grande Bretagne, de Prusse, et de Russie, ont mûrement pris en considération la dépêche* de Réchid Pacha en date de Constantinople le 13 Chewal, 1256, (8 Décembre, 1840,) que son Excellence Chékib Effendi, Ambassadeur de la Sublime Porte, a reçu l'ordre de communiquer au Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique ayant le Département des Affaires Etrangères, pour être portée à la connaissance des Représentans des Cours signataires de la Convention du 15 Juillet.

Cette communication énonce l'hésitation que Sa Hautesse le Sultan éprouvait à accorder à Méhémet Ali le Gouvernement héréditaire du Pachalic d'Egypte.

Les Soussignés, après avoir voué à l'objet de cette communication l'attention la plus sérieuse, ont résolu d'un commun accord d'inviter son Excellence Chékib Effendi à soumettre, à cet égard, à la Sublime Porte les considérations suivantes.

Ils se font un devoir de signaler d'abord, qu'à la date de la dépêche susmentionnée de Réchid Pacha, les Représentans des Quatre Cours ne s'étaient pas encore acquittés collectivement auprès de la Sublime Porte de la démarche concertée à Londres le 15 Octobre. Et il résulte des informations les plus récentes reçues de Constantinople jusqu'à la date du 27 Décembre, que même à cette époque les Représentans des Quatre Cours ne s'étaient pas encore crus appelés à adresser au Ministère de Sa Hautesse les conseils qu'ils étaient chargés d'offrir.

Dans l'intervalle, les intentions des Cours Alliées sont invariablement restées les mêmes. Séparées par de longues distances et sans avoir eu besoin de se concerter de nouveau, elles ont transmis à leurs Représentans à Constantinople des ordres qui portent le caractère d'une parfaite unanimité.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique a adressé à cet effet à son Représentant à Constantinople des instructions sous la date du 17 Décembre, qui servent à confirmer expressément celles du 15 Octobre.

La Cour de Vienne a transmis à ce même sujet à M. l'Internonce des ordres positifs le 29 Décembre dernier.

Le Cour de Berlin s'est associée en entier aux instructions concertées en commun à Londres le 15 Octobre et le 14 Novembre.

La Cour de Russie a adressé le 23 Décembre à son Chargé d'Affaires à Constantinople des ordres conçus exactement dans le même esprit.

Les Soussignés, en rapportant ces faits, se permettent de croire que les conseils qui auront ainsi été donnés de la part des Représentans des Quatre Cours pourront avoir exercé une influence essentielle sur les opinions que Réchid Pacha a exposées dans sa dépêche susmentionnée du 8 Décembre, et fait disparaître les doutes que ce Ministre avait énoncés sur la marche ultérieure à suivre par la Sublime Porte.

Cependant, pour lever ces doutes, et pour éviter toute perte de tems, les Soussignés ont jugé utile de ne pas attendre des rapports ultérieurs de Constantinople ; et sans différer plus longtems de répondre à la communication de son Excellence Chékib Effendi, ils ont cru de leur devoir d'exprimer encore une fois à M. l'Ambassadeur Ottoman, et de constater par écrit, l'opinion de leurs Cours respectives, telle qu'ils ont eu l'honneur de la lui communiquer déjà de vive voix.

Cette opinion invite le Sultan à user de sa clémence et de sa générosité souveraines de manière non seulement à révoquer l'Acte de destitution prononcé contre Méhémet Ali, mais à lui accorder la promesse que ses descendans en ligne directe seront nommés successivement par le Sultan au Pachalic d'Egypte, chaque fois que ce poste deviendra vacant par la mort du Pacha précédent.

En conseillant à la Sublime Porte d'accorder cette faveur à Méhémet Ali, les Quatre Cours, loin de suggérer à Sa Hautesse une idée nouvelle, ne font que

* See Inclosure 2 in No. 107.

lui rappeler les intentions que le Sultan avait spontanément annoncées lui-même dès l'origine de la crise du Levant, intentions qui ont servi de base à la Convention du 15 Juillet.

De plus, les Quatre Cours, en adressant à la Sublime Porte le conseil que la présente communication est destinée à lui réitérer, ont la conviction de ne lui suggérer ni un arrangement dérogatoire aux droits de souveraineté et à l'autorité légitime du Sultan, ni une mesure contraire aux devoirs qu'il appartient au Pacha d'Egypte de remplir, comme sujet du Sultan nommé par Sa Hautesse pour gouverner en son nom une province de l'Empire Ottoman.

Cette vérité se trouve confirmée non seulement par les Articles 3, 5, et 6 de l'Acte Séparé annexé à la Convention du 15 Juillet, mais encore par les instructions que les Quatre Cours ont adressées à leurs Représentans à Constantinople à la suite de la délibération du 15 Octobre.

En effet, par l'Acte susmentionné § 5 il est stipulé que tous les Traités et toutes les loix de l'Empire Ottoman, c'est-à-dire tous les Traités et toutes les loix qui sont aujourd'hui ou qui pourront à l'avenir être en vigueur dans l'Empire Ottoman, s'appliqueront au Pachalic d'Egypte comme à toute autre province de l'Empire.

Cette condition, que les Quatre Cours regardent comme indispensable, constitue à leurs yeux l'un des liens les plus solides pour rattacher l'Egypte à la Turquie comme une partie intégrante de l'Empire Ottoman.

Le § 6 du même Acte porte que les forces de terre et de mer qui pourront être entretenues en Egypte, fesant partie des forces de l'Empire Ottoman, seront toujours considérées comme disponibles pour le service général de l'Etat.

Finalement, par l'instruction concertée à Londres le 15 Octobre, et confirmée par le Mémorandum rédigé le 14 Novembre dernier, il a été formellement reconnu, que si Méhémet Ali ou l'un de ses descendans venait à enfreindre les conditions auxquelles le Gouvernement héréditaire d'Egypte lui aurait été confié, ce titre serait sujet à être révoqué.

Les Soussignés aiment à croire que la complète mise en vigueur des conditions susmentionnées répondrait pleinement aux intentions du Sultan, réaliserait tous les vœux des Quatre Cours Alliées, et accomplirait heureusement l'œuvre de pacification qui a fait l'objet de leurs engagemens mutuels consacrés par la Convention du 15 Juillet. Car, en effet, par l'accomplissement de ces conditions, les objets sur lesquels s'est fixée la sollicitude et la prévoyance des Hautes Parties Contractantes, se trouveraient atteints.

Le Sultan serait désormais assuré de l'obéissance et de la soumission de son Pacha, Gouverneur d'Egypte; les populations de cette province seraient mises à l'abri de l'oppression, dont elles ont eu à souffrir durant ces dernières années par les abus de l'administration locale; enfin, Méhémet Ali obtiendrait pour lui-même et pour sa famille une position qui assurerait paisiblement son avenir, sans toutefois porter la moindre atteinte aux devoirs qu'il aura à remplir comme sujet de Sultan.

Les Soussignés, en portant ces considérations à la connaissance de son Excellence Chékib Effendi, le prient de les soumettre sans délai à sa Cour, et d'engager le Gouvernement de Sa Hautesse à y vouer son attention la plus sérieuse.

Ils ont l'honneur d'offrir en même tems à M. l'Ambassadeur de la Sublime Porte Ottomane l'assurance renouvelée de leur haute considération.

(Signé) ESTERHAZY. NEUMANN.
PALMERSTON.
BULOW.
BRUNNOW.

Londres, le 30 *Janvier*, 1841.

(Translation.)

THE Undersigned, Plenipotentiaries of the Courts of Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia, have attentively considered Rechid Pasha's despatch, dated Constantinople, Chewal 13, 1256, (December 8, 1840,) which his Excellency Chekib Effendi, Ambassador of the Sublime Porte, received orders to communicate to Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in order that it might be brought to the knowledge of the Representatives of the Courts who signed the Convention of the 15th of July.

This communication expresses the hesitation which His Highness the Sultan felt to grant Mehemet Ali the hereditary Government of the Pashalic of Egypt.

The Undersigned, after having given to the object of this communication the most serious attention, have unanimously determined to invite his Excellency Chekib Effendi to lay before the Sublime Porte the following considerations in this respect.

They make it their duty, in the first instance, to point out that at the date of Rechid Pasha's above-mentioned despatch, the Representatives of the Four Courts had not yet collectively taken towards the Sublime Porte the step agreed upon in London, on the 15th of October. And it appears from the most recent intelligence received from Constantinople up to the 27th of December, that even at that time, the Representatives of the Four Courts had not yet thought themselves called upon to address to the Ministry of His Highness the advice which they were commissioned to offer it.

In the interval, the intentions of the Allied Courts have remained invariably the same. Separated from each other by great distances, and without having had occasion again to concert together, they have forwarded to their Representatives at Constantinople instructions which bear the character of perfect unanimity.

Her Britannic Majesty's Government addressed to its Representative at Constantinople, instructions to this effect, dated the 17th of December, which serve expressly to confirm those of the 15th of October.

The Court of Vienna forwarded to the Internuncio, on the 29th of last December, positive orders on this same subject.

The Court of Berlin entirely concurred in the instructions concerted in common in London, on the 15th of October, and 14th of November.

The Court of Russia, on the 23rd of December, addressed to its Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople, orders conceived exactly in the same sense.

The Undersigned, in adverting to these circumstances, allow themselves to believe that the advice which will thus have been given on the part of the Representatives of the Four Courts, will have exercised an essential influence on the opinions which Rechid Pasha has set forth in his above-mentioned despatch of the 8th of December, and will have caused to disappear the doubts which that Minister had expressed, as to the ulterior course to be followed by the Sublime Porte.

Nevertheless, to remove these doubts, and to avoid all loss of time, the Undersigned have deemed it useful not to wait for further reports from Constantinople; and without delaying any longer to reply to the communication of his Excellency Chekib Effendi, they have considered it their duty to express once again to the Ottoman Ambassador, and to record in writing, the opinion of their respective Courts, such as they have already had the honour verbally to communicate it to him.

This opinion invites the Sultan to manifest his Sovereign clemency and generosity so as not only to revoke the Act of deprivation pronounced against Mehemet Ali, but also to promise him that his descendants in the direct line shall be successively named by the Sultan to the Pashalic of Egypt, every time that that post shall become vacant by the death of the preceding Pasha.

In counselling the Sublime Porte to grant this favour to Mehemet Ali, the Four Courts, far from suggesting to His Highness a new idea, only remind him of the intentions which the Sultan had himself spontaneously announced from the commencement of the crisis of the Levant,—intentions which have served for a basis to the Convention of the 15th of July.

Moreover, the Four Courts, in addressing to the Sublime Porte the advice which the present communication is designed to repeat to it, are persuaded that they do not suggest to it either an arrangement derogatory to the rights of sovereignty and to the legitimate authority of the Sultan, or a measure contrary to the duties which it belongs to the Pasha to discharge, as a subject of the Sultan, appointed by His Highness to govern in his name a province of the Ottoman Empire.

This truth is confirmed not only by the IIIrd, Vth, and VIth Articles of the Separate Act annexed to the Convention of July 15, but also by the instructions which the Four Powers addressed to their Representatives at Constantinople, in consequence of the deliberation of the 15th of October.

In fact, by the fifth paragraph of the above-mentioned Act, it is stipulated that all the Treaties and all the Laws of the Ottoman Empire, that is to say, all the Treaties and all the Laws which are at present, or which may be hereafter, in force in the Ottoman Empire, shall be applied to the Pashalic of Egypt as to every other province of the Empire.

This condition, which the Four Courts look upon as indispensable, constitutes in their view one of the strongest bonds for reuniting Egypt with Turkey, as an integral part of the Ottoman Empire.

The sixth paragraph of the same Act imports that the land and sea forces which may be maintained in Egypt, forming part of the forces of the Ottoman Empire, shall always be considered available for the general service of the State.

Lastly, by the instruction concerted at London on the 15th of October, and confirmed by the Memorandum drawn up on the 14th of November, it was formally admitted, that if Mehemet Ali or one of his descendants should infringe the conditions on which the hereditary Government of Egypt should have been entrusted to him, that title would be liable to revocation.

The Undersigned are fain to believe that the complete enforcement of the above-mentioned conditions would fully answer the intentions of the Sultan; would realise all the wishes of the Four Allied Courts; and would happily accomplish the work of pacification which forms the object of their mutual engagements recorded in the Convention of July 15. For, in fact, by the accomplishment of these conditions, the objects on which the solicitude and the foresight of the High Contracting Parties has been fixed, would be attained.

The Sultan would henceforth be assured of the obedience and submission of his Pasha, Governor of Egypt; the populations of that Province would be secured from the oppression from which they have had to suffer during these latter years, in consequence of the abuses of the local administration; lastly, Mehemet Ali would obtain for himself and for his family, a position which would peaceably ensure his future existence, without, however, impairing in the least degree, the duties which he will have to discharge, as a subject of the Sultan.

The Undersigned, in bringing these considerations to the knowledge of his Excellency Chekib Effendi, request him to lay them without delay before his Court, and to urge the Government of His Highness to give them its most serious consideration.

They have the honour at the same time to offer to the Ambassador of the Sublime Ottoman Porte the renewed assurance of their high consideration.

(Signed) ESTERHAZY. NEUMANN.
PALMERSTON.
BULOW.
BRUNNOW.

London, January 30, 1841.

No. 146.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, January* 30, 1841.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency a copy of a Note which has been this day addressed by the Plenipotentiaries of the Four Powers to Chekib Effendi, who will send the original of it to his Government this day; and I have to instruct your Excellency to show this note to such of your Colleagues of the Conference of the Four Powers as may not have received it from their Colleagues here.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 147.

Sir John Barrow to J. Backhouse, Esq.

Sir, *Admiralty, February* 1, 1841.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a letter from Admiral the Honourable Sir

Robert Stopford, Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's ships and vessels in the Mediterranean, and of its inclosures, reporting that the Sultan's flag is flying on the Turkish fleet in the harbour of Alexandria, the recall of the Egyptian Army from Syria, and the entire submission of Mehemet Ali to the Sultan; and I am to request that you will lay the same before Viscount Palmerston.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN BARROW.

Inclosure 1 in No. 147.

Admiral Stopford to R. More O'Ferrall, Esq.

"*Princess Charlotte*,"
Sir, *Marmorice, January* 14, 1841.

WITH reference to my letter of yesterday, I have great satisfaction in acquainting you for their Lordships' information, that the Sultan's flag is now flying on the Turkish fleet in the harbour of Alexandria, having been hoisted on the 11th instant by Admiral Walker, and saluted by all the shipping in the port. The Pasha has offered him every assistance, and he is now occupied in preparing the ships for sea, putting in here on their way back to Constantinople.

Orders have been sent by the Pasha, with my sanction, for the recall of his army from Syria; and by his entire submission to the Sultan I hope I may now congratulate Her Majesty's Government that this painful and embarrassing Eastern Question is at length happily brought to an end.

For a more particular statement of the circumstances attending the event, I refer you to Commodore Sir Charles Napier's letter of the 11th, which reached me by the "Stromboli" a few hours only after I had despatched the "Hydra" so as to be at Marseilles by the 20th; and to one from Admiral Walker with a *procès verbal* by Boghos Bey of the conversation between the Pasha and the Commodore previous to the surrender.

Considering this event of such infinite importance, I am anxious this should reach Her Majesty's Government at the earliest period possible, and have despatched the "Gorgon" with it to Malta on account of the quarantine, with orders to Rear-Admiral Sir John Louis to forward a steamer to Marseilles with Lieutenant Edward Stopford, who has orders to proceed with it to the Admiralty with all possible despatch.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) ROBERT STOPFORD,
Admiral.

Sub-Inclosure 1 in No. 147.

Commodore Napier to Admiral Stopford.

Her Majesty's Ship "Carysfort," Alexandria,
Sir, *January* 11, 1841.

I ARRIVED here in the afternoon of the 8th, and on anchoring, an officer came on board to compliment me in the name of Mehemet Ali, and to say his Highness would be glad to see me as soon as convenient.

I gave the officer to understand I was charged with despatches to Boghos Bey, and after I had delivered them I should have the honour of paying my respects to his Highness.

Between seven and eight in the evening, I repaired to the Palace and delivered to Boghos Bey your letter, and also put into his hands an extract of Lord Palmerston's instructions of the 15th of December, beginning with the words, "Now it is necessary that Sir Robert Stopford."

Boghos Bey, after some explanations on my part, did not seem to be much disappointed at the refusal of the Allies to give a guarantee, but he expressed his dissatisfaction at the word "Hereditary" not appearing in the letter of Rechid Pasha to the British Ambassador, and observed that there would be some difficulty with the Pasha, as he fully expected on his submission the "Hereditary Pashalic of Egypt" would be conferred on him.

On being introduced to the Pasha he was by no means in good-humour, and was evidently disappointed at the communication Boghos Bey had previously made to him.

I acquainted his Highness that I had directions to allow vessels to proceed to Kaiffa to embark the sick, wounded, women and children, and others of the Egyptian army, and that a British officer should accompany the person he sent with directions to evacuate Syria, to see his orders carried into execution; and that I should give every assistance to fit out the Turkish fleet, which I regretted to see in the same state that I had left it. He observed that it was not his fault, that after the agreement I had made with him, the officer had been sent back from Syria with the agreement disallowed. I remarked that the difficulty was now obviated, that the agreement had been approved of in London with the exception of the guarantee.

To this he replied that he did not care so much about the guarantee, but the word "Hereditary" had been left out,—that Lord Palmerston's letter to Lord Ponsonby dated the 15th October, which had been made public, decidedly said the Porte would be strongly recommended to give him the Hereditary Pashalic; that in M. Guizot's speech to the French Chambers, he had declared that the Allies would recommend it; and in fine, that the agreement signed by Boghos Bey and myself stipulated that the fleet should be given up on receiving the Official Account that the Sublime Porte would confer on him the Hereditary Government of Egypt; that, notwithstanding this, in Lord Palmerston's instructions of the 14th November, communicated to him by Captain Fanshawe, the word "Hereditary" was left out. But nevertheless he had entirely submitted himself to the will of the Sultan, and asked for no terms, being convinced he would be confirmed in the fullest terms.

After some conversation on indifferent subjects, I took my leave, and was requested to see Boghos Bey the following morning, after the papers had been translated and considered by the Pasha.

At eleven the next morning I waited on Boghos Bey, who again expressed to me the disappointment and dissatisfaction of the Pasha, not so much at the refusal of the guarantee as at the word "Hereditary" being left out in Rechid Pasha's letter; he said the Pasha had done everything he could to gain the goodwill of England; that the interests of Great Britain and Egypt were identified; and he again recurred to the reasons he had to believe he should enjoy the Hereditary Title.

I said I was not without hope that the British Government would still use their influence with the Porte to obtain that point, and that I should do everything in my power to forward the Pasha's wishes, and I had reason to believe they would be complied with.

He requested me to read that part of Lord Palmerston's letter approving of my Convention, which I consented to do, but to be considered as a private communication and not to go further; this he received with much satisfaction, and said if I would read it to the Pasha he was certain it would go a great way to tranquillize him. In the evening I again waited on Mehemet Ali, and I read to him the other part of Lord Palmerston's instructions, which had some effect in putting him in good-humour.

He however still lingered after Syria, and talked a good deal about the impossibility of quitting it till the Spring without a great loss of life and stores, and was anxious that the women and children, and the sick, should be allowed to embark at Beyrout or Sidon, or the most convenient place, should the army be still at Damascus.

I observed on this, that the weather was better now than when the Convention was signed, and was improving every day. That I had no authority to allow any embarkation at Beyrout or Sidon, but that I should direct the officer in command of the Coast of Syria, to give every facility in his power; and that I felt satisfied the best way to ensure the British Government pressing the point of the Hereditary Government was, by throwing no difficulties in the way; that, whether or no, his son would succeed him; and as to a guarantee, he had shown it was more necessary to guarantee the Porte against him than him against the Porte. He was a good deal flattered at this observation, and at last consented to all I requested, and which I got in writing yesterday morning, a copy of which I have the honour to inclose.

The Egyptian steamer started yesterday afternoon, and I send copies of

the orders I have written to the Senior Military and Naval Officers, as well as the instructions to Lieutenant Loring, which I trust will meet your approbation.

I really do think, under all circumstances, Mehemet Ali has behaved very well; both his Highness and Boghos Bey assure me of their good wishes to Great Britain, and I feel positive if Lord Palmerston can obtain for him the Hereditary Pashalic of Egypt, he will have no occasion to regret it.

The Commissioners arrived yesterday afternoon, and Admiral Walker took command of the Turkish fleet to-day at noon.

Thus terminated this great Question, the solution of which (under your orders) I had the honour to commence at Djounie and finish at Alexandria.

I am happy to say that the Pasha has abandoned the monopoly of agricultural produce, except cotton, which may be exported on paying a duty of 12 per cent.

It is quite impossible to say at present what assistance Admiral Walker will require, and I do not like to detain the "Stromboli" lest she should be too late for the steamer going to Marseilles; but if you could spare "Castor" and "Daphne" they would be useful; and if you approve of it, I could call up "Dido," "Hazard," and "Magicienne," should they be required.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) CHARLES NAPIER,
Commodore.

Sub-Inclosure 2 in No. 147.

Boghos Joussouf to Commodore Napier.

Monsieur le Commodore, *Alexandrie, le* 10 *Janvier*, 1841.

LA lettre que j'ai l'honneur de vous adresser aura pour objet de résumer, d'après le désir que vous en avez exprimé, les paroles que vous avez entendues de la bouche même du Viceroi mon maître, dans votre entretien de hier soir.

Le retard apporté à l'évacuation de la Syrie est indépendant de la volonté de Son Altesse. En conséquence de la Convention conclue avec vous le 27 Novembre dernier, Hamid Bey avait été envoyé en Syrie pour porter à Ibrahim Pacha les ordres du Viceroi. Vous connaissez, M. le Commodore, les raisons qui ont empêché cet officier supérieur de remplir sa mission, et vous savez de quelle nature ont été les obstacles qui se sont opposés à ce que les dépêches de Son Altesse parvinssent à leur destination.

Le Viceroi, désirant toutefois vous donner une nouvelle preuve de son empressement à remplir ses engagemens, est disposé à faire partir aujourd'hui même un bateau à vapeur pour porter de nouveau en Syrie Hamid Bey, qui sera chargé, conjointement avec l'officier Anglais désigné par vous, de transmettre les ordres au Général-en-Chef de l'armée Egyptienne. Aussitôt qu'Ibrahim Pacha en aura pris connaissance, il effectuera l'évacuation de la Syrie, en dirigeant vers Kaiffa, si cela lui est possible, les femmes, les enfans, et malades, et en se mettant lui-même en marche vers l'Egypte, dans le cas où il ne serait pas déjà même en route avec son armée pour opérer sa retraite dans cette direction. Au moment où le retour de Hamid Bey nous aura fait connaître les dispositions prises par Ibrahim Pacha en exécution des ordres de Son Altesse, et lorsque nous aurons acquis la certitude que les malades, femmes et enfans, appartenant à l'armée Egyptienne, ont pu se rendre à Kaiffa, Son Altesse enverra, dans cette échelle, des transports destinés à assurer leur retour en Egypte.

Pour ce qui concerne la flotte Ottomane, je ne puis que confirmer ce que j'ai précédemment eu l'honneur de vous écrire, M. le Commodore—elle est prête à prendre la mer.

Telle est la substance des termes dans lesquels le Viceroi s'est exprimé avec vous, M. le Commodore. Son Altesse, en vous donnant ainsi un nouveau témoignage de sa déférence aux décisions des Puissances Alliées, a la conviction qu'elles hâteront l'exécution du Traité du 15 Juillet, en obtenant en sa faveur le Gouvernement héréditaire de l'Egypte; et qu'elles manifesteront leur intention d'assurer la pacification de l'Orient, en la fondant sur des bases à jamais durables.

Je saisis, &c.,
(Signé) BOGHOS JOUSSOUF.

(Translation.)

Monsieur le Commodore, *Alexandria, January* 10, 1841.

THE object of the letter which I have the honour to address to you, is to recapitulate, according to the desire which you have expressed to me, the words which you heard from the mouth of the Viceroy, my master himself, in your conversation yesterday evening.

The delay which has occurred in the evacuation of Syria is not dependent on the will of his Highness. In consequence of the Convention concluded with you on the 27th of November last, Hamid Bey was sent to Syria, to carry the Viceroy's orders to Ibrahim Pasha. You know, M. le Commodore, the reasons which hindered that superior officer from fulfilling his mission, and you are acquainted with the nature of the obstacles which prevented the despatches of his Highness from reaching their destination.

The Viceroy, always desirous to give you a fresh proof of his readiness to fulfil his engagements, proposes to despatch a steam-vessel this very day to take back to Syria Hamid Bey, who will be charged, in conjunction with the English officer appointed by you, to deliver the orders to the General-in-Chief of the Egyptian army. As soon as Ibrahim Pasha shall be made acquainted with them, he will immediately effect the evacuation of Syria, despatching, if it is in his power to do so, the women, children, and sick towards Kaiffa, and marching himself towards Egypt, should he not be already in motion with his army to effect his retreat in that direction. Immediately on our being made acquainted, by the return of Hamid Bey, with the measures taken by Ibrahim Pasha in execution of the orders of his Highness, and as soon as we shall have acquired the certainty that the sick, women, and children belonging to the Egyptian army have been able to proceed to Kaiffa, his Highness will send transports to that port to secure their return to Egypt.

With respect to the Ottoman fleet, I can only confirm what I had formerly the honour of writing to you, M. le Commodore; it is ready to put to sea.

Such is the substance of the terms in which the Viceroy expressed himself to you, M. le Commodore. His Highness, in thus giving you a fresh proof of his deference to the decisions of the Allied Powers, is convinced that they will hasten the execution of the Treaty of the 15th of July by obtaining in his favour the hereditary Government of Egypt; and that they will show their intention of securing the pacification of the East, by placing it on an imperishable foundation.

I take, &c.,
(Signed) BOGHOS JOUSSOUF.

Sub-Inclosure 3 in No. 147.

Admiral Walker to Admiral Stopford.

Her Majesty's Steamer "Stromboli,"
My dear Sir, *Alexandria, January* 11, 1841.

MEHEMET ALI has just delivered up to my charge the Sultan's fleet, with permission to take the Egyptian officers and men as far as Marmorice, which I intend to avail myself of; so it will not therefore be necessary to have any English officers to assist in getting them across. I have not been able to see Commodore Napier since I hoisted my flag, to inform him of Mehemet Ali's offer; and as the "Stromboli" is now under weigh, I have not time to add more than a request, that you will kindly pardon this hurried communication, and believe me to be, &c.,

(Signed) R. W. WALKER.

No. 148.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received February* 4.)

My Lord, *Paris, February* 1, 1841.

THE report of the discussion in the two Houses of Parliament on the address, in answer to the Queen's speech, has produced a most satisfactory effect upon the public here, as well as on the Government. The French people have been taught to believe by the late Ministry, by the greater portion of the press of this country, by many of their orators in the Chamber, that France had been treated contemptuously, that the Treaty of the 15th of July was an Alliance formed, not for the mere purpose of settling the Eastern Question, but with hostile intentions against France, or at least for the purpose of excluding France from all consultation with the other Powers on the general affairs of Europe, and withholding from her the influence to which she was entitled in their regulation.

The explanations given by M. Guizot in the Chambers had tended to undeceive the public, and, to a certain degree, the irritation of the nation had subsided. But the good feeling towards France which was manifested on both sides in both the Houses of Parliament, by all the speakers who took a part in the debate on the address, seems to have entirely dissipated the illusion which was practised on the public.

M. Guizot has, in the most explicit terms, expressed his satisfaction at the tenour of the debate; and seemed to consider it as an introduction to the re-establishment of that good understanding and concert, which it is desirable should subsist between all the Great Powers upon questions of general European policy. M. Guizot said, he was not prepared to make any proposition; but he referred to Marshal Soult's Note of 1839, which had been addressed to the Courts of London, of Vienna, of Berlin, and of St. Petersburgh, and to which answers from each Court have been returned, corresponding very much with the sentiments expressed in that Note, as affording a basis of an arrangement between the Great Powers.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 149.

Mr. Larking to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received February* 8.)

My Lord, *Alexandria, January* 21, 1841.

THE revival of trade consequent on the prospect of a speedy settlement of affairs of the Levant, has caused the British merchants to express some anxiety as to the future.

I have on various occasions been applied to, on the subject of the Commercial Treaty concluded between Great Britain and the Ottoman Porte on the 16th of August, 1838, to know whether its provisions are to be immediately enforced, or to take effect in this country, in order that the merchants may regulate their commercial operations accordingly. Not having received any instructions from your Lordship, I am unable to give that definite information which is required, and have only been able to answer in general terms, that, although Mehemet Ali be confirmed in the Pashalic of Egypt, or even obtain the hereditary tenure of the same, that circumstance in no way alters his position as regards his allegiance to the Sultan, and the obligation he is under to regulate the administration of the Government intrusted to him, in accordance with the Treaties in force in other parts of the Turkish dominions.

Mehemet Ali expresses himself greatly in favour of the Commercial Treaty, and professes anxiety to see it in vigour in this country; he has even gone so far as to throw open the importation of grain, seed, flax, and some other articles, on payment of the export duty established by that Treaty; but as the

produce of the country is almost exclusively in his own possession, the benefit arising from this measure can only be felt by those few who occupy lands on which the arrears of taxation claimed by Government have been paid. In fact, until a complete reform takes place in the internal administration of the affairs of Egypt, the Commercial Treaty will remain a dead letter, and will only have the effect of burthening the merchant with an additional import duty, without enabling him to reap the benefit in consideration of which that duty was increased.

Mehemet Ali will, I am confident, turn his attention to correcting the many serious abuses which exist; but he is, unfortunately, surrounded by advisers whose interest it is to maintain them, and who keep him as much in the dark as possible as to the exactions of the Governors and others employed in the distant provinces. It is these exactions which reduce the cultivators of the soil to the lowest degree of misery, and effectually prevent them from liquidating the arrears of an accumulating taxation. As debtors to the Government they forfeit the crops of their lands, and these are seized and carried to the Government magazines, which are thus filled with the greater part of the produce of the country, and consequently the merchant who wishes to purchase for exportation, is compelled to supply himself from these stores at such prices as the Government chooses to fix. With a view to remedy these evils, Said Bey, the son of Mehemet Ali, is at present on an excursion into the interior of the country; he is to ascertain, with as much accuracy as lies in his power, the extent of existing abuses, and to report the same to his father.

I have no doubt but that some good will result from this measure, but I fear not to the extent required. To render this reform complete, Mehemet Ali must not only make great alterations in his internal administration, but also consent to heavy pecuniary sacrifices, by remitting a portion, or even the whole, of the debt which weighs upon the cultivator and paralyzes his energies.

It may be difficult to persuade Mehemet Ali at once to adopt those measures of reform; and even if adopted, it would require time to enable them to work well. But, should Her Majesty's Government deem the subject of sufficient importance to merit its attention, I feel confident that a simple recommendation from your Lordship would at this moment have the greatest effect in stimulating the resolutions of Mehemet Ali, and produce the most beneficial results.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN W. LARKING.

No. 150.

Mr. Larking to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received February* 8.)

My Lord, *Alexandria, January* 22, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that Commodore Sir Charles Napier arrived here on the 6th instant, with instructions from the Commander-in-Chief to make known to Mehemet Ali, that although the Allied Powers approved of the spirit of the Convention signed by the Commodore on the 27th of November, 1840, it nevertheless contained some stipulations respecting the guarantee required by Mehemet Ali for the hereditary government of Egypt with which they could not comply, and to recommend that both the evacuation of Syria and the restitution of the Turkish fleet should be immediate and unconditional.

After a few interviews with Mehemet Ali, Sir Charles succeeded in obtaining the object of his mission, and received a letter to that effect from Boghos Bey, in which he stated the willingness of Mehemet Ali to do all that was demanded of him, and expressing a hope that this prompt compliance with the wishes of the Allies, would induce them to recommend to the Sultan to grant him the hereditary government of the Pashalic of Egypt. As Sir Charles Napier has already forwarded to your Lordship a copy of this letter with a detailed account of his proceedings, it is unnecessary for me to enlarge on the subject.

In accordance with an arrangement with Boghos Bey, Abdul-Hamid Bey and an English officer were despatched to Ibrahim Pasha with the order for the immediate evacuation of Syria; and on the same day (the 10th instant), Admiral Walker, accompanied by Mazloum Bey, arrived here, and on the following morning, having hoisted his flag and taken formal possession of the fleet, immediately commenced fitting it for sea; and the preparations were carried on with such activity, that all the vessels are now on their way for Marmorice, with the exception of two, which will shortly sail.

The prospect of a speedy settlement of the Egyptian Question has given general satisfaction throughout the country, and the latent discontent and feverish anxiety previously existing among the native population has partially subsided.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN W. LARKING.

No. 151.

Mr. Larking to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received February* 8.)

My Lord, *Alexandria, January* 23, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that Ibrahim Pasha was yesterday reported to have arrived at Ramla, on his way to Gaza. A telegraphic despatch has this morning reached Mehemet Ali, that Solyman Pasha with the division under his command, amounting to 8,000 men, including some Cavalry and Artillery, has arrived at Suez.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN W. LARKING.

No. 152.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Larking.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 11, 1841.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 21st of January, reporting that you have been applied to on various occasions for information whether the provisions of the Commercial Convention of August, 1838, are to take effect in Egypt; and that in the absence of instructions, you have confined your replies to a general statement of your opinion, that under any circumstances, Mehemet Ali will be bound to conform to the treaties in force in other parts of the Turkish dominions.

You acted rightly in thus answering; and I have, moreover, to state to you, with reference to your further observations as to the fiscal abuses prevalent in Egypt, that as all the laws and treaties of the Turkish Empire are to apply to, and to be executed in, Egypt, as well as in every other province of the Empire, these local abuses will necessarily cease, and the Convention of August, 1838, will be carried into execution in Egypt as elsewhere.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 153.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received February* 8.)

My Lord, *Therapia, January* 3, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of the Grand Vizier's reply to Mehemet Ali's letter brought here by Captain Fanshawe. The Vizier's letter is committed to the care of Admiral Walker and Mazloum Bey, who are also appointed the Commissioners of the Sublime Porte to receive from Mehemet Ali the Ottoman fleet.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure in No. 153.

Reply of His Highness the Grand Vizier to Mehemet Ali.

(Traduction.)

J'AI pris connaissance du contenu de la belle dépêche que vous venez de m'envoyer en date du 17 Chewal (le 22 Novembre), et qui a été mise aussi sous les yeux de Sa Majesté Impériale.

On voit par la communication de Votre Altesse, que vous avez formé le dessein de faire véritablement votre soumission à Sa Hautesse, et qu'en preuve même de cela, vous avez pris le parti de rendre immédiatement la flotte Impériale, et de remettre sans délai certains endroits situés hors de l'Egypte.

L'intention et les bonnes dispositions que vous venez de manifester, étant d'un heureux présage pour l'adoption et la mise en pratique du bon système et des bons procédés voulus, Sa Hautesse les a justement appréciées.

Dans toutes ses affaires, dans tous ses procédés, la Sublime Porte, guidée par des sentimens équitables, a pour maxime de ne point s'écarter des règles de la modération.

C'est pourquoi Sa Hautesse est disposée à accueillir favorablement la soumission que vous avez offerte, et à pardonner à Votre Altesse complètement.

Aussitôt donc que, conformément à votre engagement, la flotte Impériale sera sortie du port d'Alexandrie et expédiée avec tous les officiers et tous les équipages, quelques personnes bien connues exceptées, et avec toutes les armes et toutes les munitions, et que les endroits qu'on sait auront été remis sans délai aux Commissaires de la Sublime Porte, et que ce seront là des faits accomplis ; c'est-à-dire, lorsque la nouvelle positive en sera parvenue ici ; il est décidément résolu qu'alors Sa Majesté Impériale daignera réintégrer Votre Altesse dans le Gouvernement de l'Egypte. Cette manière de voir de Sa Hautesse, et les opinions pacifiques et bienveillantes des Grandes Puissances, s'accordant parfaitement sur ce point, cette résolution a été portée officiellement à la connaissance de MM. les Représentans des Cours Alliées.

Son Excellence Mazloum Bey Effendi, l'un des Principaux Employés de la Sublime Porte, et Membre du Conseil de Justice, ci-devant Moustéchar de l'Amirauté, a été chargé de l'exécution des instructions nécessaires ; et le Férik de la Marine Impériale, le très-distingué Yaver Pacha, est chargé de prendre la flotte Impériale et de la conduire ici.

On laisse à votre sagacité à faire ce qu'il faut.

(Translation.)

I HAVE taken cognizance of the contents of the good despatch which you addressed to me dated the 17th Chewal, (the 22nd November,) and which has also been laid before His Imperial Majesty.

It appears, from Your Highness's communication, that you intend really to make your submission to His Highness, and that in proof of this you have decided immediately to restore the Imperial fleet, and to surrender, without delay, certain places situated out of Egypt.

The intentions and good disposition which you have thus evinced, being a happy omen that the good system and the good proceedings which are desired, will be adopted and carried into execution, His Highness has duly appreciated them.

In all its affairs, in all its proceedings, the Sublime Porte, guided by feelings of justice, makes it a rule never to exceed the bounds of moderation.

On this account His Highness is disposed to accept your submission with favour, and to grant Your Highness his full pardon.

As soon then as, in conformity with your engagements, the Imperial fleet shall have left the harbour of Alexandria, and shall be despatched with all its officers and crews, some well-known persons excepted, and with all its equipments and stores, and the places already known shall have been made over without delay to the Commissioners of the Sublime Porte, and when these acts shall be accomplished, that is to say, when positive intelligence of this shall have arrived here, it is decidedly resolved that then His Imperial Majesty will deign to reinstate Your Highness in the Government of Egypt. These views

of His Highness, and the pacific and benevolent opinions of the Great Powers, being quite in accordance upon this point, this resolution has been officially made known to the Representatives of the Allied Courts.

His Excellency Mazloum Bey, one of the principal servants of the Sublime Porte, Member of the Council of Justice, and formerly Mousteshar of the Admiralty, is charged with the execution of the necessary instructions; and the Ferik of the Imperial navy, the most distinguished Yaver Pasha, is charged to receive the Imperial fleet and bring it here.

We leave to your wisdom to do what is necessary.

No. 154.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received February* 8.)

My Lord, *Therapia, January* 10, 1841.

I TRANSMIT copies of correspondence between the Internuncio, Count Kœnigsmarck, M. Titow, and myself, upon the subject of a measure proposed by the Internuncio, and also the substance of an instruction I sent this day to the Dragoman, immediately after I had the honour to receive your Lordship's instructions by the messenger Townley.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 154.

M. Pisani to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Péra, ce 7 Janvier,* 1841.

LE BARON STURMER a eu ce matin avec Réchid Pacha une tête-à-tête de trois heures. Le Baron a communiqué des dépêches de sa Cour, lesquelles annoncent que les Quatre Puissances se sont décidées à demander l'hérédité pour Méhémet Ali. Voilà ce que Réchid Pacha m'a dit, en ajoutant que Lord Palmerston est parfaitement d'accord sur ce point, c'est-à-dire, de faire donner l'hérédité.

(Signé) F. PISANI.

(Translation.)

My Lord, *Pera, January* 7, 1841.

BARON STURMER had an interview of three hours with Rechid Pasha this morning. The Baron communicated despatches from his Court, which announce that the Four Powers have decided upon applying for the hereditary succession for Mehemet Ali. This is what Rechid Pasha has told me, adding that Lord Palmerston perfectly agrees upon this point, namely, the obtaining the grant of the hereditary succession.

Accept, &c.,
(Signed) F. PISANI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 154.

Baron Stürmer to Viscount Ponsonby.

(Extract.) *Le 7 Janvier.*

S'IL a pu nous rester quelques doutes sur les véritables intentions de nos Gouvernemens, les dépêches que j'ai reçues hier du Prince de Metternich sont bien faites pour les détruire complètement. Le Prince est impatient de savoir quelle suite j'ai donnée à ses directions précédentes, et auxquelles le Mémorandum du 14 Novembre sert de base, et me dit et me répète, de la manière la plus péremptoire, que les Quatre Cours se sont prononcées pour *que l'hérédité dans les fonctions du Gouvernement d'Egypte soit accordée à la famille de Méhémet Ali.*

Je vais en conséquence adresser à Réchid Pacha la lettre ci-jointe en copie, et la lui porter moi-même pour y ajouter de vive voix tous les développemens nécessaires. Il me parait important surtout de lui faire sentir la nécessité

d'adresser sur-le-champ à Mazloum Bey de nouvelles instructions, et de les faire partir dès demain, si cela est possible, pour le ratteindre en route. La pensée de votre Cabinet étant absolument identique avec celle du mien, je ne doute pas que vous ne jugiez à-propos de vous expliquer dans le même sens envers la Porte.

Je vous avoue que ce n'est pas sans quelque regret que je vois ainsi s'évanouir l'espoir que nous avions de voir la puissance de Méhémet Ali s'écrouler de fond en comble; mais mon rôle est fini, et il ne me reste plus qu'à attendre en silence les ordres que mon Gouvernement voudra bien me faire parvenir, et à les exécuter scrupuleusement. Je suis sûr d'avance que vous approuverez cette manière de voir, et je m'en félicite, car vous savez, mon cher Vicomte, quel prix j'attache à votre suffrage.

(Translation.)

January 7.

IF we could have any doubts remaining as to the real intentions of our Governments, the despatches which I received yesterday from Prince Metternich are well calculated to remove those doubts entirely. The Prince is impatient to know what effect I have given to his preceding instructions, for which the Memorandum of the 14th of November serves as the basis; and he tells me and repeats to me, in the most peremptory manner, that the Four Courts have pronounced *that the hereditary succession in the functions of the Government of Egypt should be granted to the family of Mehemet Ali.*

I am, consequently, about to address to Rechid Pasha the letter, of which a copy is inclosed, and to take it to him myself in order that I may add thereto, by word of mouth, all the necessary explanations. It appears to me above all important that he should be made to feel the necessity of forthwith addressing fresh instructions to Mazloum Bey, and of sending them off to-morrow, if possible, in order to overtake him on his way. The intention of your Cabinet being absolutely identic with that of mine, I have no doubt that you will think it proper to explain yourself in the same sense owards the Porte.

I confess to you that it is not without some regret that I see the hope which we had entertained of beholding the power of Mehemet Ali crumble to pieces, disappear in this way; but my part is played, and it only remains for me to await in silence the orders which my Government will be pleased to transmit to me, and to execute them scrupulously. I am already convinced that you will approve of this view of the subject, and I congratulate myself thereupon, for you know, my dear Viscount, how much value I attach to your support.

Sub-Inclosure in Inclosure 2 in No. 154.

Baron de Stürmer to Rechid Pasha.

(Extract.) *Constantinople, le 7 Janvier,* 1841.

SI quelques doutes avaient pu tenir nos esprits en suspens relativement à la véritable portée du Mémorandum de la Conférence de Londres du 14 Novembre, les dépêches que je viens de recevoir de ma Cour sont de nature à les dissiper complètement. Ces dépêches m'apprennent de la manière la plus positive que les Cours Alliées désirent vivement qu'il plaise à Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan d'accorder à Méhémet Ali le gouvernement héréditaire de l'Egypte pour prix de sa soumission. Dès lors je ne saurais me dispenser de faire observer à votre Excellence, que par l'omission qui a été faite de la promesse formelle de l'hérédité dans la réponse du Grand Vizir à Méhémet Ali, et dans les instructions données aux Commissaires Ottomans, ces documens contiennent une lacune fâcheuse, et qu'il est d'une haute importance de remplir.

Je viens donc proposer à votre Excellence, et avec instance, d'aviser le plus tôt possible aux moyens d'arrêter les suites d'une semblable omission.

Dans ma pensée, la Sublime Porte devrait, sans perte de tems, faire partir un bateau à vapeur directement pour Alexandrie, à l'effet d'adresser à Mazloum Bey des instructions qui l'autorisent à accorder à Méhémet Ali l'hérédité du Pachalic d'Egypte sous les conditions prévues dans le Mémorandum.

(Translation.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, January 7, 1841.*

IF some doubts have kept our minds in suspense as to the real meaning of the Memorandum of the Conference of London of the 14th of November, the despatches which I have just received from my Court are of a nature to dissipate them entirely. These despatches inform me in the most positive manner that the Allied Courts are very desirous that it should please His Imperial Majesty the Sultan to grant to Mehemet Ali the hereditary government of Egypt as the price of his submission. Therefore I cannot refrain from observing to your Excellency, that owing to the omission which has been made in the answer of the Grand Vizier to Mehemet Ali, and in the instructions given to the Ottoman Commissioners, of the formal promise of the hereditary succession, there is an unfortunate in those documents, and one which it is highly important to fill up.

I therefore, now earnestly propose to your Excellency, to devise as soon as possible the means of arresting the consequences of such an omission.

In my opinion, the Sublime Porte should, without loss of time, despatch a steam-boat direct to Alexandria, for the purpose of sending to Mazloum Bey instructions which would authorize him to grant to Mehemet Ali the hereditary succession in the Pashalic of Egypt upon the conditions anticipated by the Memorandum.

Inclosure 3 in No. 154.

Viscount Ponsonby to Baron Stürmer.

Dear Baron, *Therapia, January 7, 1841.*

IT is late, between 10 and 11, and I will reply as briefly as possible to your letter which I have just received, in order not to delay your messenger. It is wholly indifferent what may be the private opinion of any of us as to this question, which is the affair of our Governments, and for which none of us are responsible; but it is another thing to act "without orders," and I will not incur "that" responsibility, and therefore I must decline acting in concert with you until I am authorized to take the steps you propose, by instructions to that effect. It is necessary I should acquaint our Colleagues and the Ottoman Ministers with my position, and I shall do so without loss of time. I have been repeatedly told by the best authority, including yourself, if I mistake not, that your Government had not decided to grant the hereditary right to Mehemet Ali; and at the Conference it did appear that you had no authority to mention that point. This matter, however, is not of a very recent date, and it is not at all impossible that more than one alteration may have taken place in the language or opinion of that Government, and that which is erroneous now, may have been right before, or possibly may be so again, for in this affair there has been a perpetual fluctuation of circumstances. If my Government has not sent me orders, it cannot be for want of time, as they would have reached me through Vienna as soon as the instruction you have received. I will not detain your messenger any longer, and I will only add, that I see no sacrifice of duty, or to duty, in this affair, the line being very plain which is to be followed, namely, to execute the orders which may be given by superior authority.

Believe me, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 4 in No. 154.

Viscount Ponsonby to Mr. Titow.

My dear Sir, *Therapia, January 7, 1841.*

NO doubt you received from Baron de Stürmer the same communication he made to me late this night, of the measure he had to propose for the adoption

of the Sublime Porte, and therefore I need not give you the trouble of any report thereof; and it will be enough that I inform you of the substance of my reply to the Baron, namely, that I must decline acting in concurrence with him on this occasion, as I have not received instructions from my Government that authorize me to do what he requires, &c., and that I see no reason why I should not have received instructions *viâ* Vienna, as soon as the Baron received those upon which he is acting. It may be superfluous to recall to your memory, that my conduct had been governed by the principle admitted by the Baron, and by yourself, and Count Kœnigsmarck; that the offers to be made by the Sultan of favour, &c., were to be made upon the submission of Mehemet Ali, and that the Sublime Porte is the judge, whether or not submission has been made. Also, that the offer of the hereditary government of Egypt was to be conceded to Mehemet "upon conditions." Now, the fact is, that at the Conference the Ottoman Minister denied the submission, and it was resolved that measures should be taken to put that question to the test of experiment, and the Sublime Porte has, in consequence, sent Commissioners to ascertain the fact. This is acting in perfect accordance with all the instructions I have received, and to make concessions previous to submission would be in direct opposition to them.

The next point I have to mention is the fact, that multiplied and positive instructions order me to call for the establishment of various most important conditions, upon which alone the hereditary government of Egypt is to be granted to Mehemet Ali; and in the measure adopted by the Internuncio, I cannot perceive any security for the establishment of those conditions previous to the grant of the hereditary government to Mehemet.

I do not know what you may think proper to do on this occasion, and I should think it wrong on my part to take any step except in concert with all my Colleagues, particularly in an affair of such importance as the present. I will, therefore, take the liberty to beg you will answer me upon this point, whether or not you give your concurrence to the step proposed by the Internuncio, and if it be not taking too great a liberty, I will also venture to request you to send it to me in the forenoon of to-morrow.

Believe me, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 5 in No. 154.

M. Titow to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Péra*, $\frac{27 \text{ Décembre, } 1840.}{8 \text{ Janvier, } 1841.}$

ON m'a remis ce matin le billet que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire hier soir. Je ne puis qu'être vivement flatté de la confiance avec laquelle vous voulez bien me demander, My Lord, si je compte m'associer à la démarche proposée par M. l'Internonce. Je manquerais à mes devoirs si j'hésitais à y répondre avec une entière franchise.

La démarche dont il s'agit rencontre de la part de votre Excellence deux observations. La première est, que pour offrir à Méhémet Ali une faveur quelconque, la Sublime Porte avait à décider si la soumission est faite d'après la décision que Réchid Pacha nous a notifiée par ordre du Sultan. Sa Hautesse considérera cette soumission comme accomplie, lorsque Méhémet Ali aura exécuté les conditions prescrites dans la réponse du Grand Vizir, en conformité du Mémorandum du 14 Novembre; c'est sur une telle base que les deux Commissaires Ottomans ont été expédiés à Alexandrie. Quelle que soit la nature des concessions à accorder, elles ne pourront l'être que moyennant l'accomplissement effectif de ces ordres, par la remise de la flotte, la consignation des provinces. La démarche actuelle de M. le Baron de Stürmer ne me parait rien changer à ce principe.

La seconde observation est que l'hérédité ne peut être accordée qu'à de certaines conditions qui seraient passées sous silence dans cette démarche. Mais la nécessité de ces conditions est hautement proclamée par l'Acte Séparé du 15 Juillet, et par les Instructions Britanniques du 15 Octobre, dont le Mémorandum du 14 Novembre est le complément. Elles

ne sauraient donc, "en principe," être sujettes à aucun doute. Pour ce qui concerne "les développemens," les Cours Alliées paraissent n'avoir pas aperçu d'inconvénient à ce que la Porte ne les arrêtât qu'après mûre réflexion et après des pourparlers préalables, parce que M. le Prince Metternich n'a lui-même envoyé ici des instructions sur les conseils à donner à cet égard, qu'au moment où la première nouvelle de la Convention du Commodore Napier a fait supposer à Vienne que le fond de la question était résolu d'une manière définitive.

Raisonnant sur ces deux bases, je trouve pour m'associer à la démarche actuelle de M. de Stürmer, les mêmes motifs qui ont dû me déterminer à partager le vote qu'il a émis dans notre Conférence; mon langage ne pouvait être dicté que par les pièces arrêtées à Londres, et transmises ici pour notre gouvernement. Nous avons observé dès-lors, que le Mémorandum du 14 Novembre n'abrogeait point les ordres du 15 Octobre, relatifs à l'hérédité; mais comme il ne les reproduisait pas non plus d'une manière aussi explicite, nous avons cru avec M. l'Internonce, que les conseils prévus par le Mémorandum pouvaient se borner à la simple réintégration du Pacha. Aujourd'hui nous n'avons pas en vue de nouveaux ordres, mais bien une interprétation donnée par une autorité aussi compétente que parait l'être M. le Prince Metternich pour juger de la pensée commune qui a présidé à la rédaction de cet Acte. Je me trouve ainsi pour ma part d'autant moins autorisé à révoquer en doute la validité d'une pareille communication, que dans notre conférence avec Réchid Pacha, votre Excellence a bien voulu annoncer de son côté, que les ordres du Cabinet Britannique l'appellent à conseiller non seulement la réintégration, mais aussi l'hérédité, une fois que la Porte aura statué sur la question de la soumission. Or, s'il est vrai que le Sultan ait décidé cette question de la manière exposée là-dessus, l'un de ces conseils soit de la sorte devenu applicable à la circonstance; l'autre n'en parait plus être que l'inévitable complément.

En vous demandant bien pardon, My Lord, de la hâte avec laquelle j'écris cette réponse, j'en espère que dans ma résolution de concourir à la demande actuelle de M. l'Internonce, vous voudrez bien apercevoir le devoir invariable de régler ma conduite sur les indications qu'il nous est donné de puiser dans nos pièces officielles relativement à la pensée du Cabinet Britannique, qui, tout en marchant d'accord avec les autres Cours Alliées, figure en première ligne dans la question d'Egypte.

Veuillez, &c.,

(Signé) TITOW.

(Translation.)

My Lord, *Pera*, December 27, 1840 / January 8, 1841.

THE Note which your Excellency did me the honour to write to me yesterday evening was delivered to me this morning. I cannot but be highly flattered by the confidence with which you are good enough to ask me, my Lord, whether I intend to join in the measure proposed by the Internuncio. I should fail in my duty if I hesitated to reply thereto with perfect candour.

The measure in question calls forth two observations on your Excellency's part. The first is, that in order to offer any favour to Mehemet Ali, the Sublime Porte had to decide whether submission has been made in accordance with the decision which Rechid Pasha notified to us by order of the Sultan. His Highness will consider that submission as complete, when Mehemet Ali shall have executed the conditions prescribed in the answer of the Grand Vizier, in conformity with the Memorandum of the 14th of November; it is on this basis that the two Ottoman Commissioners were sent to Alexandria. Whatever may be the nature of the concessions to be granted, they can only be so as a result of the effectual fulfilment of those orders, by the restoration of the fleet, and by the surrender of the provinces. The present measure proposed by Baron Stürmer does not appear to me at all to alter this principle.

The second observation is, that the hereditary succession can only be granted upon certain conditions, which would be passed over in silence

by this measure. But the necessity for these conditions is decidedly proclaimed by the Separate Act of the 15th of July, and by the British instructions of the 15th of October, of which the Memorandum of the 14th of November is the completion. They cannot, then, in principle, be subject to any doubt. As far as the "explanations" are concerned, the Allied Courts appear not to have perceived any inconvenience in the Porte not deciding upon them until after mature reflection, and after previous discussions; for Prince Metternich has only himself sent instructions here as to the advice to be given in this respect, at the moment when the first news of the Convention of Commodore Napier had given rise at Vienna to the supposition that the main point of the question had been settled in a definitive manner.

Arguing upon these two grounds, I find the same reasons for joining in the present measure of M. de Stürmer, as those which determined me to share in the opinion which he advanced at our Conference; my language could only be dictated by the papers drawn up at London, and sent here for our guidance. We then observed, that the Memorandum of the 14th of November did not at all annul the orders of the 15th of October, relative to the hereditary succession; but as it did not repeat them in an equally explicit manner, we thought with the Internuncio, that the advice anticipated by the Memorandum might be confined to the simple reinstatement of the Pasha. We have no fresh instructions now before us, but rather an interpretation given by an authority so competent as Prince Metternich appears to be to judge of the general opinion which prevailed when that Act was drawn up. For my part, therefore, I consider myself the less authorised to call in question the validity of such a communication, because at our conference with Rechid Pasha your Excellency announced, on your part, that the orders of the British Cabinet called upon you to advise not only the reinstatement, but also the hereditary succession, when once the Porte had decided upon the question of the submission. Now, if it is true that the Sultan has decided that question in the manner above stated, one of those counsels would thus become applicable to the circumstances; the other appears to be no more than the inevitable completion of the first.

Begging your pardon, my Lord, for the haste in which I write this answer, I hope that in my determination to concur in the present demand of the Internuncio, you will perceive the invariable duty of regulating my conduct according to the inferences which we may be allowed to draw from our official despatches with respect to the opinion of the British Cabinet, which, at the same time that it acts in concurrence with the other Allied Courts, appears foremost in the Egyptian Question.

Accept, &c.,
(Signed) TITOW.

Inclosure 6 in No. 154.

Viscount Ponsonby to M. Titow.

My dear Sir, *Therapia, January* 8, 1841.

YOUR messenger has just arrived, and I will not at this late hour enter at large into the subject of your obliging letter, to which I will reply when I can do so more to your own satisfaction in discussing the subject. I will now confine myself to the expression of my regret that I cannot concur in the measure proposed; not in consequence of my want of respect for the opinion of Prince Metternich, but because I think I should act contrary to my duty if I permitted my acts to be guided by that Minister's instructions to the Internuncio, instead of waiting for the orders of my own Government.

I confess I am at a loss to comprehend the necessity or advantage belonging to the measure, which has called for such hurried action. I do not perceive why what has already been done by the Sublime Porte should be the smallest obstacle to the grant to Mehemet Ali of *any thing*

more, when the time clearly marked out in my instructions for making any such grant shall have arrived. You will recollect that it was late last night when I received the first intimation of this plan, and was called upon at once to adopt it, and I might upon that ground alone have been justified in declining to act until after consideration of the affair; but it is not on that account I have declined: it is because I am not authorized to supersede the authority of my own Government in directing my actions, and because I see no necessity whatever for taking upon myself the responsibility of so doing upon this occasion, when, as I view the matter, there is nothing to be gained by the proposed measure, and nothing to be lost by its non-execution.

I have troubled you with more than I intended to say at this moment, and I will endeavour to be less prolix when I have the honour to offer some observations on what you have said, and to place my own conduct in a clear light.

Believe me, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 7 in No. 154.

M. Titow to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Péra, le 9 Janvier*, 1841.

JE dois à votre Excellence mille excuses de n'avoir pas répondu jusqu'à présent à son billet d'hier. Vos réflexions n'ont pu ne pas produire sur mon esprit une profonde impression. Je serais heureux de déférer complètement à votre opinion, qui certès possède en sa faveur beaucoup d'argumens valides. Si je n'ai pu abandonner celle de M. l'Internonce, j'espère que votre équité rendra justice à mes motifs.

Nous avons à considérer deux choses,—*le principe* et *l'opportunité* de la mesure projetée.

Le *principe* que les Cours Alliées se sont décidées pour l'hérédité, je ne puis le révoquer en doute, en prenant pour règle les instructions du 15 Octobre, où elle est mentionnée; le Mémorandum du 14 Novembre, où elle n'est point abrogée, mais qui au contraire reproduit historiquement et en substance la pièce du 15 Octobre; enfin, l'explication positive donnée par M. le Prince Metternich, et combinée avec plus d'un indice qui vient à l'appui, dans les nouvelles d'Europe, dans les débats Parlementaires, et dans les feuilles Anglaises.

L'opportunité serait susceptible d'une discussion très-étendue. Elle ne saurait être épuisée dans les limites de cette lettre. Il me suffira d'exposer, que frappé comme je devais l'être de vos doutes à cet égard, et réfléchissant, d'un autre côté, aux motifs mis en avant par M. l'Internonce, je me suis surtout attaché, d'accord avec lui, à faire ressortir aux yeux de Réchid Pacha combien il est essentiel d'éviter tout ce qui pourrait devenir décidément *inopportun*, tout ce qui tendrait à trop engager l'avenir ou à tomber en contradiction avec le passé. Ainsi, nous avons conseillé, que si la Porte se décide à hâter l'annonce de l'hérédité, cette annonce ne soit pas formulée dans une nouvelle lettre à Méhémet Ali, mais tout simplement dans une instruction supplémentaire et confidentielle à Mazloum Bey; que cette instruction même ne contienne rien qui ressemble à une *donation* du droit d'hérédité, mais qu'on s'y borne *à la promettre éventuellement*, c'est-à-dire, après la stricte et préalable exécution de toutes les clauses nécessaires pour constater la soumission; que dans la même pièce il soit expressément dit que l'hérédité ne sera accordée si ce n'est *avec des conditions*, dont la base est indiquée d'avance par l'Acte Séparé du 15 Juillet, tandis que les détails en seront arrêtés par la suite; que si la Porte se décide à expédier cette instruction par un pyroscaphe *ad hoc*, l'objet ostensible de son envoi n'aie rien de commun avec la question d'hérédité; enfin, que si ce navire trouve les Commissaires Ottomans soit partis d'Alexandrie, soit debouté par le refus de Méhémet Ali d'obéir aux ordres consignés dans la réponse du Grand Vizir, on

ne fasse aucun usage de l'instruction supplémentaire, et la rapporte, telle quelle, à Constantinople. Circonscrite en de telles bornes, il m'a semblé, pour ma part, que la démarche ne dévierait point des principes arrêtés ici à la suite de la dernière Conférence, et n'affaiblirait en rien les droits solennellement reconnus à la Sublime Porte par les Cours signataires de la Convention.

Ne possédant pour instruction spéciale que celle de régler mon langage d'après les décisions de Londres, et n'ayant eu sous les yeux aucune pièce officielle qui modifie ce que nous en savons, j'aime à espérer que votre Excellence trouvera ma conduite conforme aux seuls élémens qui pouvaient me servir de règle en cette occasion. J'attache trop de prix à votre opinion pour ne pas tenir à cœur de paraître correct à vos yeux.

Apprenant qu'un courrier Britannique part ce soir, oserais-je vous prier, My Lord, de vouloir bien prendre sous vos auspices le pli ci-joint pour Londres.

Sa Majesté l'Empereur vient d'accorder un sabre orné de pierres précieuses à Sélim Pacha, et la Sta. Anna seconde classe en diamans à l'Amiral Walker, pour prix des exploits militaires en Syrie. Cette nouvelle m'a été bien agréable, et ne doutant pas qu'elle le soit aussi pour vous, My Lord, je me félicite de vous en informer.

Il ne me reste en conclusion que de vous faire agréer, &c.,

(Signé) TITOW.

(Translation.)

My Lord, *Pera, January* 9, 1840.

I HAVE a thousand excuses to make to your Excellency for not answering until now your note of yesterday. Your reflections cannot but have produced a profound impression on my mind. I should be happy to defer completely to your opinion, which certainly has many valid arguments in its favour. If I have been unable to abandon that of the Internuncio, I hope your equity will do justice to my motives.

We have two things to consider,—the *principle* and the *opportuneness* of the projected measure.

The *principle* that the Allied Courts have decided for the hereditary right, I cannot call in question, taking as a rule the instructions of the 15th of October, wherein it is mentioned; the Memorandum of the 14th of November, which does not abrogate it, but on the contrary, recapitulates historically and substantially the paper of the 15th of October; finally, the positive explanation given by Prince Metternich, and combined with more than one indication which supports it in the news of Europe, in the Parliamentary debates, and in the English papers.

The *opportuneness* would be susceptible of a very extended discussion. It could not be exhausted within the limits of this letter. It will be sufficient for me to state, that struck as I necessarily was by your doubts on this question, and reflecting, on the other hand, upon the grounds put forward by the Internuncio, I above all things applied myself, in concert with him, to making it clearly evident to Rechid Pasha how essential it is to avoid anything which might become decidedly *inopportune*, anything which might tend too far to commit for the future, or to be in contradiction with the past. Thus, we have advised that if the Porte decides upon expediting the announcement of the hereditary right, this announcement should not be made formally in a fresh letter to Mehemet Ali, but simply in a supplementary and confidential instruction to Mazloum Bey: that this said instruction should contain nothing resembling a *gift* of the hereditary right, but that it should be confined *to promising it eventually*, that is to say, after the strict and previous execution of all the stipulations necessary to prove the submission;—that it should be expressly stated in the same document that the hereditary right will not be granted except *with conditions*, the basis of which is already pointed out in the Separate Act of the 15th July, whilst the details thereof will be settled subsequently;—that if the Porte decides upon sending this instruction

by a steamer appointed specially for that purpose, the ostensible object of its despatch should have nothing in common with the question of hereditary right;—finally, that if this vessel should find that the Ottoman Commissioners have either left Alexandria, or that they have been frustrated by the refusal of Mehemet Ali to obey the orders specified in the reply of the Grand Vizier, no use should be made of this supplementary instruction, which should be brought back to Constantinople. It has seemed to me that the step, confined within such limits, would not be a deviation from the principles adopted here after the last Conference, and would in nowise weaken the rights which the Courts, parties to the Convention, have solemnly acknowledged to belong to the Sublime Porte.

Not being in possession of any special instruction beyond that of regulating my language according to the decisions come to in London, and not having before me any official document which modifies what we know of those decisions, I would fain hope that your Excellency will find that my conduct is in conformity with the views which alone could direct me on this occasion. I attach too great a value to your opinion not to feel anxious to appear correct in your eyes.

Hearing that an English messenger leaves this evening, may I beg you, my Lord, to take charge of the accompanying packet for London.

His Majesty the Emperor has just given a sword adorned with precious stones to Selim Pasha, and the Second Class of the Order of St. Anne in diamonds to Admiral Walker as a reward for military exploits in Syria. This news has been very agreeable to me, and not doubting that it will be so to you also, my Lord, I am happy to inform you of it.

It only remains for me in conclusion, &c.,

(Signed) TITOW.

Inclosure 8 in No. 154.

Viscount Ponsonby to M. Titow.

My dear Sir, *Therapia, January* 9, 1841.

BEFORE I received your letter of this day's date, which reached Therapia between eleven and twelve o'clock at night, I had made my reply to Rechid Pasha on the subject that has occupied our attention, and I take the liberty of sending you a copy of it, thinking that it may be agreeable to you to know what I thought it my duty to say. I hope you will think I have stated in the most explicit manner the grounds upon which I act, and the duty I have to perform, and that I have not used a single argument to deter the Sublime Porte from conforming to the measure proposed by the Internuncio, though I suppose my refusal to concur in giving advice may operate in some degree against the measure.

I am much grieved that I have been obliged to differ from my Colleagues, and I have troubled you already with some of the reasons that make me persevere in the course I adopted; but there are other reasons which I have not stated, because they are founded upon the opinion I entertain as to the convenience and policy of the measure, which opinion may be very erroneous; whereas, there can be no doubt of my being right, when I am guided wholly by my own conviction of the nature of the duty I am to perform.

I am exceedingly obliged to you for having taken the trouble to explain to me your view of the subject: I might venture perhaps to offer some observations in reply, did I not suppose that the affair has been already settled by the opinion of the majority of my Colleagues.

I thank you very much for the information you have given me of the new instances of the magnificent generosity with which His Imperial Majesty is accustomed to reward merit wherever it is found proved by the performance of service.

I will forward with care your letter to London, but the messenger will not depart before to-morrow night.

I beg, &c.,

(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 9 in No. 154.

Count Kœnigsmarck to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Le* 8 *Janvier*, 1841.

JE viens de recevoir à l'instant même le billet que votre Excellence a bien voulu m'écrire cette nuit. M. l'Internonce m'a invité en effet à appuyer la demande qu'il a faite hier à la Porte, et d'après la teneur générale de mes instructions, je crois devoir le faire, quoique plusieurs points me paraissent fortement parler en faveur des argumens de votre Excellence. M. de Stürmer m'écrit que M. de Titow fera appuyer également la démarche ce matin par son Drogman, et il me semble qu'il importe de ne pas faire croire en Europe d'une divergence d'opinions entre nous, car il reste toujours au Sultan d'agir selon ses convenances.

Je saisis, &c.,
(Signé) KŒNIGSMARCK.

(Translation.)

My Lord, *January* 8, 1841.

I HAVE this instant received the note your Excellency was so good as to write to me last night. The Internuncio has, in fact, invited me to support the application which he yesterday made to the Porte, and according to the general tenour of my instructions I think I ought to do so, although many points appear to me to speak strongly in favour of your Excellency's argument. M. de Stürmer writes to me that M. de Titow will also cause the step to be supported this morning by his Dragoman, and it appears to me important not to let it be thought in Europe that there is a difference of opinion among us, for the Sultan has always the power of acting as he thinks fit.

I avail myself, &c.,
(Signed) KŒNIGSMARCK.

Inclosure 10 in No. 154.

Viscount Ponsonby to Count Kœnigsmarck.

Monsieur le Comte, *January* 8, 1841.

I HAVE just had the honour to receive your Excellency's reply to my letter of last night.

I regret that I cannot act with my Colleagues in this affair, without at the same time being wanting in the obedience due to my Government. It will be very unpleasant to give occasion, as your Excellency observes, to Europe, to suppose that there exists any difference of opinion amongst the Representatives of the Four Powers; but, if that opinion shall be created in Europe by what is now done, it is not to me that it can be justly attributed to be the cause. I act upon plain intelligible grounds, which I have briefly stated to your Excellency, and I confess I have no proof or even comprehension of the necessity for proceeding with such breathless haste, and I cannot, without the existence of some reason that appears to be solid, deviate from the tenour of my instructions. It appears to me that there is no need for the measures recommended by his Excellency the Internuncio to be adopted, because whatever is granted to Mehemet Ali may be fully as well granted at the proper time, and according to the plan decided upon by the British Government. Moved by these considerations, I have directed the British Dragoman to declare to the Sublime Porte that I am *not* a party to this measure proposed by the Internuncio.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 11 in No. 154.

Message sent by Rechid Pasha, and brought by M. Etienne Pisani late in the day.

(Extract.) *Le 9 Janvier*, 1841.

1. QUE si la Porte consent à accorder l'hérédité à Méhémet Ali, que ce ne sera que sous des conditions, et pas dans une forme simple, comme on lui propose.

2. Que des instructions seront données à Mazloum Bey de promettre l'hérédité à Méhémet Ali s'il lui en parle, ou s'il s'aperçoit que Méhémet Ali n'attend que cela pour remplir ses promesses.

En conséquence, ce que Réchid Pacha désire savoir maintenant, c'est de savoir quelle conduite il doit tenir, et quelle doit être la proposition à émettre dans le Conseil de ce soir, car sur la décision du Conseil sera basée la réponse à donner aux Représentans.

(Translation.)

January 9, 1841.

1. THAT if the Porte consents to grant the hereditary succession to Mehemet Ali, it shall only be done conditionally, and not in a simple form, as is proposed to it.

2. That instructions shall be given to Mazloum Bey to promise the hereditary right to Mehemet Ali if he speaks to him about it, or if he perceives that Mehemet only waits for that in order to fulfil his promises.

Consequently, what Rechid Pasha wishes now to know, is, what line of conduct he should follow, and what proposal he should make in the Council to be held to-night, for the reply to be given to the Representatives will be founded upon the decision of the Council.

Inclosure 12 in No. 154.

Viscount Ponsonby to Rechid Pasha.

Monsieur le Ministre, *Therapia, January* 9, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to reply to your questions, by reference to what took place at the Conference held on the 20th of December, 1840, which, no doubt, is fresh in your recollection.

I then said, that I had received orders from my Government to offer certain counsels to the Sublime Porte, in the name of the British Government, provided the Sublime Porte was satisfied with the submission of Mehemet Ali; and I stated that the counsel to be given, if the Sublime Porte were satisfied with the submission, would be counsel to grant the hereditary government of Egypt to Mehemet Ali upon certain conditions, which conditions I would detail at the time when I should be empowered to give the counsel; your Excellency stated, that the Sublime Porte was not satisfied with the submission of Mehemet Ali; and it was agreed at the Conference that the Sublime Porte should take steps to satisfy itself of the true nature of the submission by an appeal to facts; and the Porte has sent Commissioners to effect that purpose.

Whenever the Sublime Porte says that it is content with the submission made by Mehemet Ali, I am prepared to offer the counsel, as I have been commanded to do by my Government, namely, to give Mehemet Ali the hereditary government of Egypt upon conditions, which conditions I shall then have the honour to specify in detail to the Sublime Porte.

I am not at liberty to deviate from the line of my instructions as traced by my Government; and I cannot be a party to any measure that is not in exact conformity with it; and I cannot give any counsel in the name of the British Government in any other way than that which has been prescribed in my instructions.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 13 in No. 154.

Viscount Ponsonby to M. Titow, Baron Stürmer, and Count Königsmarck.

My dear Sir, *Therapia, January* 10, 1841.

I HASTEN to acquaint you, that in consequence of what I have received from my Government by the messenger who has just arrived here, I have instructed my Dragoman to inform his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs, that the British Government advises the Sublime Porte to grant to Mehemet Ali the hereditary government of Egypt.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 14 in No. 154.

Viscount Ponsonby to M. Frederick Pisani.

Sir, *Therapia, January* 10, 1841.

YOU will acquaint his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs, that I am ordered to counsel the Sublime Porte, in the name of the British Government, to grant to Mehemet Ali the hereditary Government of Egypt.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 155.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received February* 8.)

My Lord, *Therapia, January* 10, 1841.

COLONEL HODGES communicated to me the papers of which I inclose copies. He may possibly have reported them to your Lordship, but I think them worth sending, as they may be considered (perhaps) a plan for obtaining a safe retreat for Ibrahim from Syria, which, if obtained, may put Mehemet Ali in a position in Egypt to refuse the conditions your Lordship intends to insist upon.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 155.

(See Inclosure in No. 117.)

Inclosure 2 in No. 155.

(See Sub-Inclosure in No. 117.)

No. 156.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received February* 8.)

My Lord, *Therapia, January* 13, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of instructions sent by the Sublime Porte to Mazloum Bey; and a Hatti-Sheriff. These papers were sent late yesterday to the Dragoman, who translated them immediately, and has forwarded them to me.

If there should be anything found in the *mode* of proceeding that is not in concurrence with your Lordship's instructions to me, I am not responsible for it, as I was not informed of it.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 156.

Hatti-Sheriff communicated by Rechid Pasha to the Representatives of the Allied Courts.

(Traduction.) *Le* 12 *Janvier*, 1841.

J'AI pris connaissance du contenu de cette délibération du Conseil.

Par déférence pour les conseils des Hautes Cours Alliées, et attendu que mon adhésion à l'hérédité dont il s'agit, met fin à la question, et contribue à la conservation de la paix générale, j'ai résolu de conférer de nouveau à Méhémet Ali Pacha le Gouvernement de l'Egypte, avec droit d'hérédité, lorsqu'il aura réellement fait sa soumission de la manière que le Conseil l'a compris.

Attendu que les instructions rédigées pour être envoyées à Mazloum Bey, et renfermant la promesse formelle de l'objet en question, sont telles que la circonstance l'exige, j'ordonne que l'on commence à agir conformément aux ordres qu'on m'a demandés.

Il y a cependant ceci à dire: l'expérience du passé a prouvé la nécessité que notre Sublime Porte soit mise en parfaite sûreté de la part de l'Egypte, soit pour à présent, soit pour l'avenir; et ce but ne saurait guère être atteint qu'en attachant à l'hérédité des conditions fortes, des obligations nécessaires. Convaincu que la même sollicitude bienveillante dont les Hautes Puissances Alliées ont déjà donné des preuves, sera employée à cet effet aussi, je me suis empressé d'écouter leurs conseils et de les mettre à exécution.

On donnera aux Quatre Représentans copie de ces instructions, et on les informera de ce qui a été dit plus haut.

On mettra du zèle à faire ce qui est nécessaire.

(Translation.)

January 12, 1841.

I HAVE taken cognizance of the contents of this deliberation of the Council.

From deference to the advice of the High Allied Courts, and seeing that my acquiescence in the hereditary succession in question, puts an end to the matter, and contributes to the preservation of the general peace, I have resolved to confer anew upon Mehemet Ali Pasha, the government of Egypt, with right of hereditary succession, when he shall really have made his submission in the manner understood by the Council.

Seeing that the instructions drawn up to be sent to Mazloum Bey, and containing the formal promise of the point in question, are such as are required

by circumstances, I direct that a commencement should be made of acting in conformity with the orders which have been requested of me.

There is this, however, to be said: the experience of the past has proved the necessity of my Sublime Porte being placed in perfect security on the side of Egypt, both now and hereafter; and this object can scarcely be attained unless stringent conditions, necessary obligations, be attached to the hereditary succession. Convinced that the same benevolent solicitude, of which the High Allied Powers have already given proof, will be employed for this purpose also, I have hastened to listen to their advice, and to carry it into execution.

Copy of these instructions shall be given to the Four Representatives, and they shall be informed of what has been said above.

What is requisite is to be done with zeal.

Inclosure 2 in No. 156.

The Grand Vizier to Mazloum Bey.—(Communicated by Rechid Pasha to the Representatives of the Allied Courts.)

(Traduction.) 19 Zilkadé, 1256 / 12 Janvier, 1841.

DANS la lettre que j'ai écrite et envoyée par votre Excellence à Son Altesse Méhémet Ali Pacha, il n'y a rien de clair ni de précis relativement à l'hérédité du Gouvernement de l'Egypte. Il y est dit, en termes généraux, qu'il sera réintégré dans le Gouvernement de l'Egypte. Il est donc probable, il est à présumer, que Son Altesse concevra des soupçons à cet égard; et c'est pour cela qu'il a été jugé nécessaire de donner sur ce point les éclaircissemens qui suivent.

Comme la lettre que Méhémet Ali Pacha m'a envoyée, et par laquelle il a offert sa soumission à Sa Majesté Impériale, commençait par faire mention de la Convention qui avait été faite entre lui et le Commodore Napier, et que la Sublime Porte n'avait pas accepté cette Convention, qu'elle regardait comme nulle et non-avenue, on a pensé que parler d'hérédité dans ma lettre ce serait, au fond, reconnaître la Convention, et voilà pourquoi on a omis d'en parler.

Cependant, Sa Majesté Impériale, dont les bontés et les faveurs se répandent sur ses serviteurs véritablement soumis, ayant à l'égard de Méhémet Ali Pacha des intentions bienveillantes qui sont en harmonie avec les sentimens de modération dont les Hautes Puissances Alliées sont animées, il est certain qu'aussitôt qu'il aura prouvé par des faits, ainsi qu'il a été déclaré dans ma lettre, la soumission qu'il a offerte, en restituant immédiatement la flotte Impériale, et en consignant, sans délai, les pays dont on sait qu'il est question, et qui sont situés hors de l'Egypte, aux Commissaires de la Sublime Porte, Sa Hautesse daignera le rétablir dans le Gouvernement de l'Egypte, avec droit d'hérédité.

On est après à établir les conditions nécessaires posées comme bases par le Traité d'Alliance, et d'autres points qui se rattachent à ces conditions; et comme tout cela sera arrangé en même tems que l'investiture de l'hérédité aura lieu, je m'abstiens d'entrer dans des détails à ce sujet pour le moment. Toutefois, il importe que Son Altesse sache en peu de mots ce dont il s'agit, et qu'on lui fasse surtout savoir d'avance, que si une seule des conditions qui auront été établies n'est pas observée, l'hérédité sera abolie.

Vous ratifierez donc formellement, de la part de Sa Majesté Impériale, à Méhémet Ali, dans le cas où, conformément à ce qui a été dit plus haut, sa soumission serait un fait, l'hérédité conditionnelle comme ci-dessus. Et afin de dissiper tout-à-fait les doutes qu'il pourrait avoir à cet égard, et lui inspirer une entière confiance, vous lui ferez même voir, au besoin, ma présente dépêche officielle.

Tels sont les ordres du Sultan, conformément auxquels vous aurez soin d'agir, et c'est à cette fin que je vous écris la présente.

(Translation.)

19 Zilkadé, 1256
12 January, 1841.

IN the letter which I wrote and sent by your Excellency to his Highness Mehemet Ali Pasha, there is nothing clear or precise relative to the hereditary succession to the Government of Egypt. It is said, in general terms, that he shall be reinstated in the Government of Egypt. It is then probable, it is to be presumed, that his Highness will conceive suspicions in this respect; and it is for this reason that it has been judged necessary to give the following explanations upon this point.

As the letter which Mehemet Ali Pasha sent to me, and by which he offered his submission to His Imperial Majesty, commenced by making mention of the Convention which had been concluded between him and Commodore Napier, and as the Sublime Porte had not accepted that Convention, which it regarded as null and of no effect, it was thought that if I had spoken in my letter of the hereditary succession, it would have been, in substance, to recognize the Convention, and that is the reason why it was omitted to speak of it.

Nevertheless, His Imperial Majesty, whose goodness and favours are shed over his servants truly submissive, entertaining with regard to Mehemet Ali Pasha the benevolent intentions which are in unison with the sentiments of moderation by which the High Allied Powers are animated, it is certain that as soon as he shall have proved by facts, as has been declared in my letter, the submission which he has offered, by immediately restoring the Ottoman fleet, and by making over, without delay, to the Commissioners of the Sublime Porte, the countries which are known to be in question, and which are situated out of Egypt, His Highness will be pleased to re-instate him in the Government of Egypt, with right of hereditary succession.

The requisite conditions laid down by the Treaty of Alliance, and other points connected with those conditions, are about to be settled; and as all this will be arranged at the same time that the investiture of the hereditary succession shall take place, I abstain for the moment from entering into details upon this subject.

However, it is important that his Highness should know in a few words what is doing, and that he should be apprized beforehand that if a single one of the conditions which shall have been laid down, is not observed, the hereditary succession will be abolished.

You will therefore formally ratify to Mehemet Ali, on the part of His Imperial Majesty, in case that, in conformity with what has been said above, his submission shall be a fact, the conditional hereditary succession aforesaid. And in order altogether to dispel the doubts which he might have in this respect, and to inspire him with entire confidence, you will even allow him, if necessary, to see my present official despatch.

Such are the orders of the Sultan, in conformity with which you will be careful to act, and it is for this purpose that I write to you the present despatch.

No. 157.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, February* 10, 1841.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 10th of January, inclosing copies of your correspondence with your Colleagues, with reference to a proposal made by the Internuncio on the 7th of January, on the receipt of instructions from his Court, that the Plenipotentiaries of the Four Powers should concur in a representation to the Porte with the view of inducing the Sultan to grant to Mehemet Ali hereditary tenure of the Pashalic of Egypt; and also a copy of a message which, on the receipt of my despatch of the 17th of December, you sent to the Porte on the 10th of January, announcing that

you were instructed to advise the Porte to grant to Mehemet Ali the hereditary Government of Egypt; and I have to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government approve the course you took with reference to the matter in question.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 158.

Sir John Barrow to J. Backhouse, Esq.

Sir, *Admiralty, February* 10, 1841.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you, for the information of Viscount Palmerston, the inclosed copy of a letter from Commodore Sir Charles Napier, dated 21st ultimo, transmitting the copy of his letter and its inclosures to Admiral the Honourable Sir Robert Stopford, reporting his proceedings at Alexandria.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN BARROW.

Inclosure 1 in No. 158.

Commodore Napier to R. More O'Ferrall, Esq.

Her Majesty's Ship "Carysfort,"
Sir, *Alexandria, January* 21, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a letter* to Sir R. Stopford, reporting my proceedings at Alexandria up to the 11th instant, together with copies† of my letters to the Senior Naval and Military Officers in Syria, Lieutenant Loring's instructions, and Boghos Bey's letter to me.

I now beg to acquaint you for their Lordships' information, that the Pasha has most religiously fulfilled all he promised, and has acted altogether in the most liberal manner in equipping, provisioning, and paying the Turkish squadron, the last of which sailed this morning for Marmorice.

Sir Baldwin Walker deserves great credit for his indefatigable exertions in getting them out; many of them were obliged to lighten, even to their ballast, and take in their guns and stores outside, which they did without anchoring, and were clear of the land before sunset.

I also inclose a copy of a letter to Boghos Bey on the subject of the sale of cotton and the Commercial Convention of August, 1838.

Relative to the cotton, the Pasha immediately fixed the price at 13 dollars the kintar, to be paid on delivery; and he promised to carry out the Convention, to abolish all monopolies throughout Egypt, and to turn his attention to the ameliorating the condition of the people.

I called his attention to the system practised by his Government of making the villages answerable for each other paying the contribution, and even each inhabitant answerable for his neighbour. All of which he admitted to be bad, and added, he had not had time to turn his attention to it before.

I also recommended him to encourage as much as possible the establishment of newspapers, in order that all abuses might come to his ears.

He observed that he had always wished to gain the good-will of England, but without success, and he was now ready to do everything she wished.

He is under the impression that Great Britain is opposed to him either cutting a canal through the isthmus or establishing a railroad. On this point I could give him no positive opinion, but I feel quite certain he will do anything we wish in reason, and would become our vassal if we required it.

* Sub-Inclosure 1 in No. 147.
† Inclosure 2 in No. 178.

I inclose a copy of Boghos Bey's reply to me on the subject of the Convention. I did not think it reasonable to push him further.

The army left Damascus on the 29th of December, in three columns; there is a report that there has been an affair at Jaffa, but I trust it is not serious, and that the officer in command there will give every facility to Ibrahim's retreat.

Letters have been received from Constantinople, stating that the Porte had conceded the hereditary Pashalic to Mehemet Ali.

I beg to congratulate their Lordships and the Government on the final termination of this contest, which threatened to put Europe in a blaze, and which it would have required, at least, half the water in the Mediterranean to have extinguished.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) CHARLES NAPIER,
Commodore.

January 23.—Ibrahim Pasha has arrived safe at Gaza, and Solyman at Suez; Mehemet Ali says with 60,000 troops, 10,000 of which are irregular.

The steam-boat has not yet returned from Syria, so that I do not know where the women, children, and sick have been left.

We hear there is great disorder in Arabia since the Pasha withdrew his troops.

In a long conversation I had yesterday with him, he said he hoped two or three years would prove that the policy of the Allies depriving him of Syria and his other possessions had been good, but he much doubted it.

Admiral Walker sailed this morning.

Sub-Inclosure 1 in No. 158.

Commodore Napier to Lieutenant Loring.

Her Majesty's Ship "Carysfort,"
Sir, *Alexandria, January* 10, 1841.

PURSUANT to directions from the Commander-in-Chief, you will accompany Hamid Bey in the Egyptian steam-boat to the coast of Syria.

You will recommend him first to proceed to Acre, and you will deliver the accompanying letter to the officer commanding the Allied forces.

You will consult with him as to the best way of proceeding to Ibrahim Pasha's head-quarters, and you will demand a proper escort (if necessary) for your own protection and that of the Egyptian officer bearing the despatches to Ibrahim Pasha.

The object of your mission to Ibrahim Pasha's head-quarters, is to see the evacuation of Syria carried into effect, and you will stay with Ibrahim Pasha as long as you consider it necessary, and then return to Alexandria.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) CHARLES NAPIER,
Commodore.

Sub-Inclosure 2 in No. 158.

Commodore Napier to Boghos Bey.

Her Majesty's Ship "Carysfort,"
Sir, *Alexandria, January* 14, 1841.

WITH reference to the conversation I had the honour of holding with your Excellency this morning, relative to the notice you had issued of the intention of selling the crop of cotton of 1840, on the 20th of February, and continuing the sale the 1st of every succeeding month; I beg to observe to your Excellency,

that several of the British merchants complain of the difficulty they have of becoming purchasers. They allege, that if they import cash to purchase this cotton, the price may be put so high, that they will either be obliged to take it at a loss, or re-export their specie. They have, in consequence, requested me to suggest to your Excellency that the cotton in question may be put up at public sale, where it is sure to fetch its real value, and the merchants will then have a fair chance of becoming purchasers. This is the system invariably followed by the East India Company, and they have always found it to answer their purpose and satisfy the public.

I take this opportunity of asking your Excellency whether it is his Highness's intention to execute the Commercial Treaty of the 16th of August, 1838.

Your Excellency must be aware that the British Government will insist on its being put into immediate operation, and I feel quite certain, if his Highness will allow it at once to take its course, he will not only gain many friends in England, but it will also engage Lord Palmerston more strongly to push the point of the hereditary government.

As I had the honour of signing the Convention of the 27th of November, which has been approved of with the exception of the guarantee, I feel myself bound in honour to do all in my power to have it fulfilled, and I am desirous of being furnished with arguments to show the British Government that it is to their interest to, if possible, see it fully carried out; and no argument that I can make use of will weigh more than being able to write to Lord Palmerston that the Commercial Convention is in full operation.

Permit me to express to your Excellency how pleased I am on seeing the loyal manner in which his Highness has acted throughout the whole affair of the evacuation of Syria and the delivery of the fleet, and I trust it will have its due weight at Constantinople.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) CHARLES NAPIER,
Commodore.

Sub-Inclosure 3 in No. 158.

Boghos Joussouf to Commodore Napier.

Monsieur le Commodore, *Alexandrie, le* 18 *Janvier*, 1841.

APRES vous avoir instruit, M. le Commodore, que j'avais porté à la connaissance du Viceroi mon Maître la lettre amicale que vous m'avez écrite le 14 de ce mois, j'ai eu l'honneur de vous accompagner ce matin chez Son Altesse, et dans l'entretien tête-à-tête qui a eu lieu, vous avez pu, M. le Commodore, vous convaincre de la loyauté de ses sentimens et de sa conduite. Tous les moyens disponibles ont été mis à la disposition de l'Amiral Yaver Pacha pour faciliter la sortie du port à la flotte Ottomane, qui se trouve prête à prendre la mer; la retraite des troupes Egyptiennes s'effectue en Syrie; les garnisons de Candie, d'Arabie, et des Lieux Saints n'attendent que l'arrivée des forces destinées à les remplacer pour maintenir la tranquillité de ces pays.

Quant au commerce, Son Altesse, qui veut y donner tous ses soins conformément aux désirs exprimés, elle en a été empêchée jusqu'à ce jour par les occupations de la guerre. Dans peu de jours elle se rendra dans les provinces pour mûrir des arrangemens, qui, sans violentes secousses pour l'administration du pays, la mettent en état de satisfaire au Traité auquel elle a acquiescé. Le Viceroi compte donc qu'on lui accordera le tems indispensable pour que cette transition puisse s'effectuer au gré de tous.

J'ai, &c.,
(Signé) BOGHOS JOUSSOUF.

(Translation.)

M. le Commodore, *Alexandria, January* 18, 1841.

AFTER having informed you, M. le Commodore, that I had made known to the Viceroy my master the friendly letter which you wrote to me on the 14th of this month, I had the honour to accompany you this morning to his Highness, and in the conversation which ensued, you have been

enabled to convince yourself, M. le Commodore, of the sincerity of his sentiments and conduct. All the means we possess have been placed at the disposal of the Admiral Yaver Pasha to facilitate the departure of the Ottoman fleet, which is ready to put to sea; the retreat of the Egyptian troops is being carried into effect in Syria; the garrisons in Candia, Arabia, and the Holy Cities, only await the arrival of the forces destined to replace them, in order to maintain the tranquillity of these countries.

With regard to commerce, his Highness, who is desirous to dedicate to it all his care in conformity with the desire which has been expressed, has been hitherto prevented from doing so by the occupations of the war. In a few days he will proceed to the Provinces to complete such arrangements as may, without a violent shock to the administration of the country, put him in a position to fulfil the conditions of the Treaty to which he has given his acquiescence. The Viceroy trusts that the time will be granted him, which is indispensable to enable this change to be effected to the satisfaction of all.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) BOGHOS JOUSSOUF.

No. 159.

Sir John Barrow to J. Backhouse, Esq.

Sir, *Admiralty, February* 28, 1841.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Viscount Palmerston, a copy of a letter from Admiral Sir Robert Stopford, stating, that he considers his mission in the Levant to have terminated, and that he intends to proceed to Malta, leaving Rear-Admiral Sir John Ommaney in command of the squadron at Marmorice.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN BARROW.

Inclosure in No. 159.

Admiral Stopford to R. More O'Ferrall, Esq.

"Princess Charlotte,"
Sir, *Marmorice, January* 26, 1841.

YOU will be pleased to acquaint my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that after having seen the arrival of the Turkish fleet in this harbour from Alexandria, on their passage to the Dardanelles as soon as the season permits, having also received intelligence that Solyman Pasha, commanding the advanced guard of Ibrahim Pasha's army, had arrived at Suez, and that Ibrahim Pasha was at Gaza on his route into Egypt, I consider my mission in the Levant to have terminated, and shall proceed to Malta, leaving Rear-Admiral Sir John Ommaney here with the command of the ships named in the margin*, until their Lordships' further orders.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) ROBERT STOPFORD,
Admiral.

No. 160.

Brigadier-General Michell to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received February* 14, 1841.)

My Lord, *Acre, December* 31, 1840.

AS yet there has been no direct communication with England or with Malta, nor have any means been afforded me of sending to your Lordship a satisfactory despatch with regard to the affairs of Syria.

* Britannia. Powerful. Revenge. Rodney. Howe. Vanguard. Castor. Calcutta. Benbow. Cambridge. Dido. Daphne. Magicienne. Talbot. Wasp. Vesuvius. Hecate. Stromboli. Hazard.

On the departure of Sir Charles Smith the Sultan's commission was delivered to General Jochmus, and a few days afterwards he left Beyrout for Sidon, and proceeded thence with some light cavalry to Hasbeya in the hill country on the Upper Jordan, for the purpose of giving encouragement and direction to the mountaineers, and of obtaining accurate intelligence concerning the Egyptian Army.

The most vague and conflicting accounts were arriving daily as to the intentions of Ibrahim Pasha. He had concentrated his forces about Damascus, and the general belief was that he would immediately commence his retreat to Egypt.

General Jochmus, notwithstanding his nearer approach to Damascus, has been still kept in doubt as to what is going on there; but he seems to be fully of opinion that Ibrahim Pasha is about to move, and that he will, if possible, retreat on Gaza. His proposal, therefore, is to cause the Egyptian Army to be harassed on its flanks and rear by the mountain levies, and having assembled the regular Turkish troops at points along the coast, to operate with them as occasions may offer, in the defiles between the Jordan and the coast. In the mean time General Jochmus has been very desirous of attacking Gaza, and of capturing or destroying the provisions which are said to be in store there for the Egyptian Army, and he has repeatedly urged my co-operation for this purpose with men-of-war or steamers on the coast. There have been, however, and are still, many difficulties opposed to such an undertaking. The whole of the fleet had taken shelter at Marmorice, leaving only one steamer to watch the wreck of the "Zebra" in the Bay of Acre, besides the "Hecate," which brought me to Beyrout; yet three French vessels, a corvette, and two brigs of war, remained upon the coast and were generally at anchor near Beyrout. I took the earliest opportunity of making this known to the Admiral, Sir Robert Stopford, and he most kindly and promptly sent Captain Houston Stewart with the "Benbow," seventy-two, and the "Hazard" sloop. They arrived on the 24th of December, but the heavy surf prevented their communication with the shore, and it was not until the 27th that I could get the detachments of artillery and sappers, which came from England in the "Hecate," disembarked at Acre. In the mean time, however, Lieutenant-Colonel Colquhoun of the Artillery, and Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson of the Engineers, had made a visit to that fortress, and likewise to Tyre and Sidon.

The Admiral, while he sent me this naval aid, expressed a great unwillingness to have it employed against Gaza or in any offensive operations; first, on account of the storms prevailing at this season; secondly, because the negotiations opened by Captain Fanshawe were still pending, and he had consented to a request, made by the Pasha of Egypt, Mehemet Ali, that Egyptian steamers might go off Gaza to embark the sick, the women, and the children, of Ibrahim Pasha's Army, for Alexandria.

Captain Houston Stewart had instructions from the Admiral based upon these reasons; and they of course weighed also with me as to any operations against Gaza; besides I had received information of the Egyptian force there, and at El-Arish, having been largely reinforced; but knowing that General Jochmus had directed a corps to be detached from Acre to that part of the country, I determined to attempt some observations upon the coast, and on the 29th proceeded in the "Hecate" steamer from Beyrout to Acre; Captain Stewart kindly consenting to accompany me, and ordering the "Hazard" sloop to follow, but leaving his own ship the "Benbow" at anchor near Beyrout. We reached Acre in the evening, and having communicated with Lieutenant-Colonel Colquhoun and with the Turkish General Selim Pasha, re-embarked and pursued our course to the southward with the intention of visiting Jaffa and of reconnoitring Ascalon and the coast near Gaza; but on the morning of the 30th, a gale of wind prevented our further progress, and we were compelled to return to the anchorage off Caiffa near Mount Carmel. In the course of the day the "Hazard" sloop appeared, but Captain Stewart, apprehending for her, if she came to anchor, the fate of the "Zebra," whose wreck lay near us, ordered her back by telegraph to Beyrout.

This morning we were enabled to steam across the bay, and land at Acre; but the gale is renewed at intervals, and we must for the present relinquish all idea of landing Marines or Artillery upon the coast. Captain Stewart returns

this evening in the "Hecate" to Beyrout, leaving the "Vesuvius" with me. That steamer conveyed some ammunition on the 29th to Jaffa for Omar Pasha, the Turkish General, who has made the movement towards Gaza. His corps is however too small to attack that place, and he will probably limit his operations to a removal of the provisions from Ramla, and other points in the line of the Egyptian Army's retreat, to Jerusalem or to Jaffa. In fact he has now expressed a wish that the enemy's attention may not for the present be drawn towards him by a descent upon the coast. I have directed Colonel Rose to accompany Omar Pasha, and to keep me acquainted with his movements.

Your Lordship will doubtless learn from Sir Charles Smith a full account of Acre, of the breaches made during the bombardment and by the explosion of a magazine, of the immediate repairs which he ordered to protect the place from a coup-de-main, and of his views as to a more extensive and permanent restoration of the works. Considering the very limited means and resources, personal or material, left in Acre, the progress made in executing Sir Charles Smith's orders has been as much as could be expected, but a great deal remains to be performed, and Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson will now charge himself with the direction of the works, whilst Lieutenant-Colonel Colquhoun will superintend, in concert with the Turkish Artillery, the arming of the batteries.

I regret to inform your Lordship that the small Marine Battalion which has been stationed at Acre since its capture, has suffered much from sickness, the Commandant Lieutenant-Colonel Walker and thirty-one men having died in the course of about six weeks. This is full one tenth of their total number. Whether the mortality has been occasioned by their previous exposure and privations during the operations on the coast, or by any cause of insalubrity in Acre, I have not yet been able to ascertain. There is reason to believe the sickness is now on the decrease. The two Assistant Surgeons lent by Sir Robert Stopford, from the fleet, and who had been attacked by the malady, are recovering. Another has been added, and I hope the arrangements I have this day ordered as to a ventilation and improvement of the quarters, and as to the establishment of a Convalescent Hospital in an airy situation outside the town, will restore the battalion to comparative health.

Nothing has been seen of the Egyptian steamers from Alexandria, to receive the sick of Ibrahim Pasha's Army. When that permission was given by Captain Fanshawe, it was supposed the Army was already on its march to Gaza, and not likely to linger at Damascus. Probably Ibrahim Pasha delays his movement from that city, now, in consequence of the Convention commenced with his father by Captain Fanshawe. Our situation will be very embarrassing until the negotiations are terminated, since any act of hostility on our part may be construed into a breach of faith, and may disturb arrangements half concluded. I am, therefore, anxiously expecting orders from Lord Ponsonby upon the subject. In the meantime his Excellency's latest instructions to General Jochmus, and upon which he is prepared and resolved to act with energy, dictate a continuance of offensive operations.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) EDWARD MICHELL,
Brigadier-General.

No. 161.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 14.)

My Lord, *Therapia, January* 21, 1841.

THE Internuncio has been so good as to communicate to me the papers of which I have the honour to inclose copies.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 161.

M. Steindl to Baron de Stürmer.

M. le Baron, *Jaffa, le* 10 *Janvier*, 1841.

PAR mon dernier rapport en date du 2 de ce mois j'ai eu l'honneur de porter à la connaissance de votre Excellence qu'Ibrahim Pacha ayant évacué Damas, et s'étant retiré sur Mézérib, d'où il aurait pu forcer le passage sur Gaza, toujours occupé par Mahmoud Bey et quelques autres officiers supérieurs Egyptiens, avec 3,000 hommes de Cavalerie et neuf canons, les Alliés avaient décidé de transférer le quartier-général à St. Jean d'Acre.

Cette place forte n'étant aucunement menacée par l'ennemi, et se trouvant encore trop éloignée du chemin qu'Ibrahim Pacha prendrait avec ses troupes pour rentrer en Egypte, s'il ne voulait pas se résigner à se retirer par le désert, où la poursuite serait aussi pénible que dangereuse et inutile, le Général Michell, Zékria Pacha, et les autres Généraux Turcs, décidèrent de réunir toutes les troupes dans le voisinage de Jaffa, et d'y établir le quartier-général, ce qui fut mis à exécution sans perte de tems. Mais il parait qu'on ne s'arrêtera pas encore dans cette dernière ville; une brigade, commandée par Ismael Pacha, partit hier soir pour Ramlé et Jérusalem, et il est plus que probable que cette dernière ville soit choisie comme centre des opérations et quartier-général, ce qui est d'autant plus désirable que Jaffa est trop petite pour contenir le gros de l'armée en hiver; les soldats ne pouvant guère, sans risquer de tomber malades, être mis sous des tentes.

Le Général Jochmus, escorté d'une centaine de cavaliers Turcs, continuait en attendant à parcourir les montagnes de la Naplouse, et les districts situés entre le Jourdan et le Haouran, pour réunir autant de montagnards et paysans que possible. Il en forma plusieurs corps, dont il confia le commandement à MM. Dumont et Comte Szechenyi, ses Aides-de-camp, pour harceler Ibrahim Pacha pendant sa retraite, tandis qu'il ordonna à Omar Pacha, stationné avec 2,500 hommes à Ramlé, de se réunir avec une partie des garnisons de Jaffa et de Jérusalem, et de tenter un coup de main sur Gaza, pour y incendier les provisions considérables que Méhémet Ali y avait fait transporter pour faciliter la retraite de l'armée de son fils sur cette route.

Les Anglais désavouèrent hautement cette attaque, d'après ce qu'il parait moins parcequ'ils désespéraient de la réussite, que parceque l'Amiral Stopford avait désigné à Méhémet Ali cette ville comme l'endroit où les Egyptiens devraient se concentrer pour être embarqués pour Alexandrie, en cas qu'un arrangement entre le Sultan et son vassal pourrait se combiner. C'est pourquoi Réchid Méhémed Pacha, nommé Chef d'Etat-Major du quartier-général, fut expédié le 5 de ce mois de St. Jean d'Acre à Thébériade auprès du Général Jochmus avec ordre de l'engager à se rendre à Jaffa pour assister à un grand conseil de guerre, tandis que le même ordre fut envoyé par un Tatar à Omer Pacha, avec défense d'attaquer Gaza. Le Général Jochmus est arrivé ici dans la journée d'hier, laissant toujours ses Aides-de-camp à la tête des paysans armés.

Dans la soirée d'hier on reçut la nouvelle positive qu'Ibrahim Pacha avait quitté Mézérib lui-même avec le reste de son armée, et qu'il avait pris le chemin du désert. M. Dumont le poursuit avec un corps de Bédouins, dans l'espoir de séparer de lui son arrière-garde, et de lui enlever quelques canons, des vivres, et des munitions. M. le Comte de Szechenyi est attendu ici sous peu de jours.

Un bateau à vapeur Anglais, arrivé hier soir de Marmorizza avec des dépêches de l'Amiral Stopford pour le Général Michell, a apporté la nouvelle que Sa Hautesse le Sultan avait agréé la soumission de Méhémet Ali, et que l'Amiral Walker était parti de Constantinople pour Alexandrie avec quelques officiers de marine Turcs pour ramener dans le Bosphore la flotte du Sultan. On nous annonce en même tems l'arrivée prochaine des ordres de Constantinople pour suspendre les hostilités.

Agréez, &c.,
(Signé) A. STEINDL.

(Translation.)

M. le Baron, *Jaffa, January* 10, 1841.

BY my last report, dated the 2nd of this month, I had the honour to acquaint your Excellency that Ibrahim Pasha having evacuated Damascus, and having retired upon Mezerib, from whence he might have been able to force his way to Gaza, which was still occupied by Mahmoud Bey and some other superior officers of the Egyptians, with 3,000 cavalry and nine guns, the Allies had decided upon transferring the head-quarters to St. Jean d'Acre.

This fortress being in no degree threatened by the enemy, and being still too far distant from the road which Ibrahim Pasha would take with his troops on his return to Egypt, if he should not choose to resign himself to retreat by the desert, where the pursuit would be as difficult as it would be dangerous and useless, General Michell, Zechariah Pasha, and the other Turkish Generals, decided upon concentrating all the troops in the neighbourhood of Jaffa, and there fixing the head-quarters, which was carried into effect without loss of time. But it appears that they will not stay even in this latter city; a brigade, commanded by Ismael Pasha, set out yesterday evening for Ramla and Jerusalem, and it is more than probable that this last city will be chosen as the centre of operations and head-quarters, which is the more desirable, as Jaffa is too small to contain the main body of the army in winter; it being scarcely possible to put the soldiers under tents without risk of their becoming sick.

General Jochmus, escorted by 100 Turkish Cavalry, continued in the mean time to traverse the mountains of the Naplouse and the districts situated between the Jordan and the Haouran, in order to assemble as many mountaineers as possible. He formed several corps of them, the command of which he entrusted to M. Dumont and Count Szechenyi, his aides-de-camp, for the purpose of harassing Ibrahim Pasha during his retreat, whilst he ordered Omer Pasha, who was stationed at Ramla with 2,500 men, to form a junction with a portion of the garrisons of Jaffa and of Jerusalem, and to attempt a sudden attack upon Gaza, in order there to burn the considerable magazines of provisions which Mehemet Ali had caused to be transported thither to facilitate the retreat of his son's army by that road.

The English loudly disavowed this attack, less, as it appears, because they despaired of success, than because Admiral Stopford had indicated to Mehemet Ali that town as the place where the Egyptians should concentrate themselves to be embarked for Alexandria, in case an arrangement could be brought about between the Sultan and his vassal. For this purpose, Rechid Mehemed Pasha, appointed Chief of the Staff at head-quarters, was sent on the 5th instant from St. Jean d'Acre to Tiberias to General Jochmus, with orders to invite him to proceed to Jaffa to be present at a great council of war, whilst the same order was sent by Tatar to Omer Pasha, with a prohibition against attacking Gaza. General Jochmus arrived here in the course of yesterday, still leaving his aides-de-camp at the head of the armed peasantry.

Yesterday evening positive news was received that Ibrahim Pasha had himself left Mezerib with the rest of his army, and that he had taken the desert road. M. Dumont is in pursuit of him with a corps of Bedouins, hoping to separate his rear-guard from him and to carry off from him some cannon, provisions, and ammunition. The Count Szechenyi is expected here in a few days.

An English steam-vessel, which arrived yesterday evening from Marmorice with despatches from Admiral Stopford for General Michell, brought the news that His Highness the Sultan had accepted the submission of Mehemet Ali, and that Admiral Walker had left Constantinople for Alexandria with some officers of the Turkish Navy to bring back the Sultan's fleet to the Bosphorus. The early arrival of orders from Constantinople for the suspension of hostilities is announced to us at the same time.

Receive, &c.,

(Signed) A. STEINDL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 161.

Notizie Uffiziale giunte a Marmorice il giorno 13 *Gennaro*, 1841, *col Vapore Inglese "Gorgon," proveniente de Giaffa, Quartier Generale dell' Armata Ottomana, fino al giorno* 10 *corrente.*

NEI ultimi giorni di Dicembre fu organizzata la leva in massa di tutti gli abitanti della Siria al sud di Beiruth e Damasco. I montanari sotto le armi sono calcolati a 15,000 uomini compresi quelli del Hauran.

Li 27 Dicembre tutti i viveri e foraggi che Ibrahim Pascià aveva radunato in un posto avanzato a quasi due giorni in ostro di Damasco, e che dovevano servire nella sua ritirata per la Palestina e Gazza, furono presi dai montanari.

Li 29 Dicembre Ibrahim evacuò Damasco. Gli disertarono 2,000 uomini di Cavalleria Curdi, con diversi corpi d'Artigleria e d'Infanteria Irregolare.

Li 2 Gennaro Ibrahim si ritirò per El Kessne, ed occupò El Mezerib, inseguito da 2,000 uomini di Cavalleria leggiera sotto gli ordini del Capitano de l'Or, Ajutante di Campo del Generale Jochmus. L'armata Egiziana soffre delle grande perdite colle continue diserzioni e dal rigore della stagione.

Li 3 e 4 Gennaro Ibrahim rimase a El Mezerib per organizzare le sue truppe e convogli. Il suo piano di ritirata di voler traversare la Palestina per Djouni e Ramla verso la costa, venne deluso dall' Emir Bechir, soppragiunto con 7,000 uomini e 1,500 Cavaleggieri.

Tiberiade ed i defile di Djouni sono occupati dai montanari di Nauplusa, mentre l'armata regolare Ottomana, composta di ventotto battaglioni, occupa tutta la linea da Sidone al Monte Carmello, tenendo pure una guarnigione a Gerusalemme.

Li 5 Gennaro Ibrahim cominciò la sua marcia pel deserto per la strada della caravana verso Maan e Suez. La sua forza era apparentemente ridotta a 15,000 uomini d'Infanteria e 5,000 di Cavalleria, ed un parco d'Artigleria di circa cento pezze. Egli aveva molti ammalati.

Il figlio del Governatore di Gerusalemme, col primo Tenente Austriaco Dumont, furono spediti a sollevare i Beduini di Gebil Chalil (Monte Hebron) e quelli del deserto, collo scopo di distruggere i foraggi e le provigioni a Maan ad otto giorni di marcia dal deserto.

Un corpo di Cavalleria di 3,000 Egiziani mandato da Mehemet Ali da El Haris è ancora stabilito in ostro di Gazza. Queste truppe subitocchè sapranno che Ibrahim Pascià si ritira pel deserto e non per la Palestina, ritorneranno ancor esse ben probabilmente in Egitto.

Il giorno 9 Gennaro tutto il Quartier Generale Brittanico ed Ottomano era stabilito a Giaffa, ove si trovavano il Serraschiere Zecaria Pascia ed il Generale Jochmus.

I S.S. Tenente Colonnello Philippovitch, MaggiorePott, e gli altri tre uffiziali suoi compagni, erano parimente a Giaffa presso il Generale in Capo.

L'armata Ottomana al 9 Gennaro occupava Acre, Gerusalemme, defile di Djouni, Giaffa, e Ramla.

Le truppe Ottomane che vennero dall' Asia Minore, traversando il Tauro o l'Eufrate, sono in movimento verso il sud, parte per la via di Baalbec, e parte lungo la costa per Tripoli e Beiruth verso Acre.

(Translation.)

IN the last days of December, the levy *en masse* of all the inhabitants of Syria to the south of Beyrout and Damascus was organized. The mountaineers under arms are estimated at 15,000 men, including those of the Haouran.

On the 27th of December, all the provisions and forage which Ibrahim Pasha had collected in an advanced post about ten days to the south of Damascus, and which were to have served in his retreat by Palestine and Gaza, were captured by the mountaineers.

On the 29th of December, Ibrahim evacuated Damascus. Two thousand Curdish cavalry, with various bodies of artillery and irregular infantry, deserted from him.

On the 2nd of January, Ibrahim retreated by El Kessne, and occupied El

Mezerib, pursued by 2,000 light cavalry under the orders of Captain de l'Or, aide-de-camp of General Jochmus. The Egyptian army suffers great loss from continued desertions, and from the severity of the season.

Ibrahim remained at El Mezerib on the 3rd and 4th of January, in order to organize his troops and convoys. His plan of retreat, according to which he wished to traverse Palestine by Djounie and Ramla to the coast, has been frustrated by the Emir Bechir, who has joined with 7,000 men and 1,500 light cavalry.

Tiberiada and the defiles of Djounie are occupied by the mountaineers of Naplouse while the regular Ottoman army, consisting of twenty-eight battalions, occupies the whole line from Sidon to Mount Carmel, maintaining, nevertheless, a garrison at Jerusalem.

On the 5th of January, Ibrahim commenced his march through the Desert by the caravan-road towards Maan and Suez. His force was apparently reduced to 15,000 infantry and 5,000 cavalry, and a park of artillery of about 100 guns. He had many sick.

The son of the Governor of Jerusalem, with the Austrian Lieutenant Dumont, were despatched to raise the Bedouins of Gebel Chalil (Mount Hebron), and those of the Desert, with the view of destroying the forage and provisions at Maan, eight days' march from the Desert.

A body of 3,000 Egyptian cavalry, despatched by Mehemet Ali from El Arish, is still stationed to the south of Gaza. These troops, as soon as they shall know that Ibrahim Pasha is returning by the Desert, and not through Palestine, will likewise very probably again return to Egypt.

On the 9th of January, the whole of the British and Ottoman head-quarters were established at Jaffa, where were the Seraskier Zechariah Pasha and General Jochmus.

Lieutenant-Colonel Philippovitch, Major Pott, and the three other officers, their companions, were likewise at Jaffa with the General-in-Chief.

The Ottoman army, on the 9th of January, occupied Acre, Jerusalem, the defiles of Djounie, Jaffa, and Ramla.

The Ottoman troops which came from Asia Minor, crossing the Taurus or the Euphrates, are in motion towards the south, partly by the way of Balbec, and partly along the coast of Tripoli and Beyrout towards Acre.

162.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received February* 28.)

My Lord, *Therapia, February* 1, 1841.

UPON the arrival of the news of the surrender of the Ottoman fleet, I wrote to Baron Stürmer to recommend proceeding to the settlement of the conditions to be attached to the grant of the hereditary Government of Egypt to Mehemet Ali. His Excellency shortly after sent me a Paper he has drawn up; and the next day but one, I had the honour of a visit from him, when I proposed a plan which met with his approbation, and which was afterwards set forth in my letter to him of the 28th instant.

I also wrote to M. Titow a letter, (I inclose copy of it,) and I afterwards sent to him, and to Count Kœnigsmarck, a copy of my letter to Baron de Stürmer, dated 28th January. I received another letter from M. Titow in approbation of the plan, which I also inclose with my answer: but a few hours after the receipt of this last letter, I had one from Baron de Stürmer, stating that he had objections to my plan, and that our Colleagues had the same: to this I answered, that I withdrew my plan, as it was no longer approved of; and I stated my obligation to follow literally your Lordship's instructions as contained in your despatch of December 17, the last I had received from you. I inclose my letter dated yesterday. I will do all I can, in obedience to your Lordship's instructions, to obtain security for the Sultan against the evil designs that Mehemet Ali may entertain, and to preserve the people of Egypt in future from the oppression which they have hitherto endured; I am convinced that there is no way of doing both, so certain as that which your Lordship says you wish would be taken, viz.: taking the collection of the Revenue out of the hands of the Pasha. If the collection of the Revenue be left in Mehemet Ali's hands, your Lordship will see,

from the inclosed Budget of Egypt, what a vast sum of money will be left at his command, and every body knows that money is the most formidable arm he can have against the Sultan, and that he will use it. If Baron Stürmer's plans be adopted, and if the revenues and so forth be left in the hands of Mehemet Ali, I am afraid there will be good cause to lament that arrangement; but if the money be not left in Mehemet Ali's power, I think the Sultan might give him almost any privileges. Your Lordship says positively, that all the Laws of the Turkish Empire are to apply to Egypt just as to any other province in the Sultan's dominions. Now the law is, that Pashas shall not collect the revenues of their Pashalics, but if it be ordered that Mehemet Ali shall pay a tribute for his Pashalic, that law must be violated, for he must then receive the revenues. The dangers and inconveniences of his receiving the revenues are infinite. He will be the sole arbiter of rewards and punishments in Egypt, and the world knows by experience how he will treat the people. In my letter of January 31 to Baron Stürmer, I have stated briefly an argument to show that the Convention of July 15 is not binding upon the Allies, so as to oblige them to deliver up to Mehemet Ali the property and liberty of the Egyptians; and I have shown, that if the Convention be construed to bind the Allies in that way, the other enactments of it are rendered null, and there will be a manifest contradiction of one provision of the Treaty with another provision. The Austrians desire to put a sudden end (as they suppose they can do) to the question here, by yielding every thing to the Pasha. Your Lordship desires to establish future security both for the Sultan and his Egyptian subjects. My duty is to follow your orders, but could I be shaken in that duty by the exertions of the Austrians, I should be still deterred from acting with them for such a purpose, by my own knowledge that all this question is to be most rigidly scrutinized in Parliament, and that severe censure would fall upon me, if I deviated from your instructions, and thereby contributed to sacrifice the Egyptians, and leave the Sultan exposed to danger. I have an additional reason derived from information I have received, that a pamphlet is prepared for publication (if it be not already published) and addressed to an Anti Slave Trade Association, in which the extent of the Slave Trade so long carried on by Mehemet Ali is proved, and the horrors of the Chase, as it is called, are fully described. This Chase is commanded by one Vissier, a Frenchman employed by Mehemet Ali, and it has for several years produced an annual average importation of 16,000 Negroes into Lower Egypt; and it is proved, that the number of human beings annually destroyed by the hunters of Negroes in their Chase, equals at least the numbers sent into Lower Egypt, making a total of more than 30,000 Negroes sacrificed or sent into slavery.

Leaving the collection and the command of the revenues of Egypt in Mehemet Ali's hands, will enable him to continue this Chase, as it will be a reward for having carried it on heretofore; I could not venture to be personally responsible for such things, and if they are done, it should be by the order of Her Majesty's Government.

The pamphlet I mention has not yet, I believe, been made public, nor sent to its destination. It is founded on the best and surest information.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 162.

Sur les Conditions à attacher à la Concession du Gouvernement Héréditaire de l'Egypte que le Sultan a déclaré vouloir accorder à Méhémet Ali.

LE moment étant venu où la Sublime Porte devra faire connaître à Méhémet Ali les conditions auxquelles il plaira au Sultan de lui accorder le Pachalic héréditaire de l'Egypte, nos instructions nous prescrivent de lui offrir quelques conseils dictés par la constante sollicitude de nos Gouvernemens pour les intérêts de Sa Majesté Impériale. Ces conseils seront ainsi le complément des secours et de l'appui qu'ils ont prêtés à ce Monarque dans l'entreprise si mémorable qui, grâce à la Divine Providence, vient d'être conduite à terme d'une manière si avantageuse et si glorieuse pour lui.

Je vais faire ici l'énumération des points les plus importans à régler avec Méhémet Ali et y ajouter quelques développemens qui serviront à faire connaître

à la Sublime Porte notre pensée à cet égard. Dans cette circonstance encore le Traité du 15 Juillet, dont les effets nous ont été si salutaires, nous servira de base. Les stipulations renfermées dans l'Acte Séparé de ce Traité, et qu'il s'agit d'exécuter aujourd'hui, sont celles qui suivent :—

ARTICLE III.

"Le Tribut Annuel à payer au Sultan par Méhémet Ali sera proportionné au plus ou moins de territoire dont ce dernier obtiendra l'administration."

Ce territoire se borne aujourd'hui à la seule Egypte, pour laquelle il a été fixé en 1811 qu'il payerait 12,000 bourses, qui, au cours actuel de la monnaie Turque, correspondent à une somme plus que quadruple, c'est-à-dire à 50,000 bourses. Mais comme il est de notoriété publique que les revenues de cette seule province ont été portées depuis à 400,000 bourses sans que le pays en ait souffert*, et que les frais d'administration aujourd'hui, où le Pacha n'a plus besoin de flotte et d'armée, puisque son avenir est assuré, peuvent être couvert avec le quart de cette somme, le tribut à payer désormais devra nécessairement être porté à un chiffre bien autrement considérable, qu'il plaira à Sa Hautesse de fixer.

Les renseignemens renfermés dans le travail ci-joint sur les finances de l'Egypte pourraient guider à cet égard les Ministres Ottomans. Nous devons à cette occasion appeler leur attention sur les arrérages dûs par Méhémet Ali pour les années 1839 et 1840, et qu'on pourra lui demander en toute justice. Un autre point encore plus important pour la Sublime Porte est, qu'elle cherche à se mettre à l'abri de la détérioration de la monnaie et de la variation du cours de change. Elle pourrait à cet effet, lorsque la somme de tribut sera fixée, en déterminer la valeur en piastres d'Egypte, d'après leur taux et poids actuel, jusqu'au moment où les améliorations que la Porte se propose d'introduire dans son système monétaire puissent recevoir leur exécution, et où par conséquent les piastres d'Egypte pourront être remplacées sans préjudice pour le trésor Impérial par des piastres Turques.

Il s'entend que si Méhémet Ali voulait porter en compte ou déduire du tribut à payer les dépenses qu'il a faites pour l'entretien de la flotte Ottomane pendant tout le tems qu'il a restée dans les ports de l'Egypte, une pareille prétention sera déclarée inadmissible d'après la teneur de l'Article IV. de l'Acte Séparé, qui a prévu ce cas.

ARTICLE V.

"Tous les Traités et toutes les lois de l'Empire Ottoman s'appliqueront à l'Egypte comme à toute autre partie de cet Empire. Mais le Sultan consent, qu'à condition du paiement régulier du tribut susmentionné, Méhémet Ali et ses descendans perçoivent, au nom du Sultan, et comme délégués de Sa Majesté Impériale, dans les provinces dont l'administration leur sera confiée, les taxes et impôts légalement établis. Il est entendu, en outre, que moyennant la perception des taxes et impôts susdits, Méhémet Ali et ses descendans pourvoiront à toutes es dépenses de l'administration civile et militaire des dites provinces."

Cet Article n'a pas besoin de commentaire. L'Egypte faisant partie de l'Empire Ottoman, les Traités de la Sublime Porte avec les Puissances Etrangères devront y être exécutés avec la même rigueur que dans toutes ses autres provinces. Il en sera de même de toutes les lois de l'Empire parmi lesquelles le Hatt de Gulhané occupe aujourd'hui la première place. Ce Hatt, monument impérissable de gloire pour le règne du Sultan Abdul Medjid, et qui a lié la Turquie aux peuples les plus civilisés de la terre par des liens désormais indissolubles, ne pourra manquer d'exercer sur l'Egypte la plus salutaire influence. Il garantira le peuple de l'oppression tyrannique sous laquelle il a gémi jusqu'ici, il régularisera la perception des taxes et des impôts, il mettra un terme aux abus révoltans de la Conscription et aux expropriations injustes et arbitraires, et lui assurera graduellement tous les bienfaits d'une civilisation éclairée.

* Méhémet Ali, d'après son propre aveu, les a fait monter bien au-delà de cette somme pendant ces dernières années.

Le droit de battre monnaie ayant toujours été établi en Egypte, Méhémet Ali et ses successeurs continueront à en jouir ; mais elle devra être au même coin que celle que l'on frappe à Constantinople. Quant au système monétaire, il devrait être le même pour l'Egypte comme pour les autres parties de l'Empire, mais cela ne pourra se faire que lorsque la Porte sera parvenu à améliorer sa propre monnaie, qui malheureusement ne vaut pas celle de l'Egypte. Vouloir unir les deux systêmes dès à présent, ce serait détruire gratuitement ce que Méhémet Ali a fait de bon et d'utile, et ce qu'il est dans l'intérêt de la Sublime Porte de maintenir et d'établir successivement dans tous ses Etats.

Parmi les Traités avec les Puissances Etrangères mentionnés plus haut, il en est une surtout qui, s'il est maintenu dans toute sa rigueur, pourra ouvrir une ère de prospérité aux habitans d'Egypte, c'est le Traité de Commerce conclu d'abord avec l'Angleterre, et auquel la plupart des Puissances Européennes ont adhéré depuis. Ce Traité, en abolissant les monopoles, donnera un libre essor à l'industrie, fera cesser une foule d'exactions arbitraires et accablantes pour le peuple, qu'il tirera ainsi de l'état d'abjection et de misère dans lequel il gémit, et assurera le bien-être du pays, en rendant à l'agriculture des portions de terre très-considérables restées incultes jusqu'à ce moment.

ARTICLE VI.

" Les forces de terre et de mer que pourra entretenir le Pacha d'Egypte, faisant partie des forces de l'Empire Ottoman, seront toujours considérées comme entretenues pour le service de l'Etat."

Cet Article exige quelques développemens. Les forces Egyptiennes devront désormais faire partie de celle du Sultan; il s'entend qu'il appartient à Sa Majesté Impériale à en déterminer la quotité et la répartition, et de les appeler en tems de guerre sur tel point de l'Empire où leur présence pourrait être jugée nécessaire.

Les nominations des officiers de terre et de mer ne pourront être faites en Egypte que par le Sultan, comme dans toutes les autres provinces de l'Empire. Le Sultan, cependant, par une faveur spéciale, et vu l'éloignement de l'Egypte, pourrait autoriser le Pacha à accorder des avancemens au nom de Sa Majesté Impériale jusqu'au grade de Jusbachi inclusivement dans l'armée de terre, et de Premier Lieutenant dans la flotte. Tous les officiers employés maintenant en Egypte devront, pour pouvoir y rester, obtenir du Sultan la confirmation de leurs grades. Il faudrait toutefois, ce nous semble, leur faire donner d'avance l'assurance que cette confirmation leur sera accordée sans difficulté. Par ce moyen toute pensée de réaction ou de vindicte sera écartée.

Il est entendu que Méhémet Ali ne pourrait désormais faire construire aucun bâtiment de guerre sans l'autorisation expresse de Sa Majesté Impériale.

Le pavillon Egyptien devra être remplacé à l'avenir par le pavillon de Sa Majesté Impériale tel qu'il est en usage dans toutes les autres parties de l'Empire. Il en est de même de l'uniforme Egyptien pour les troupes de terre et de mer, qui devra être remplacé par les costumes usités dans les autres parties de l'Empire Ottoman; et des modifications exigées, par le climat, telles que, par exemple, l'usage d'étoffes plus légères, pourront seules avoir lieu après que Sa Majesté Impériale y aura donné son assentiment.

Lorsque tous ces points seront définitivement réglés par le Sultan et ses Ministres, ce qu'il me parait important de faire sans retard, les décisions de Sa Majesté Impériale devront être annoncées à Méhémet Ali par le firman qui l'investira du gouvernement héréditaire de l'Egypte. Il devra y être dit clairement, que cette grande et importante concession que le Sultan a daigné faire dans sa magnanimité, dépend de l'exécution fidèle des conditions mentionnées ci-dessus, et pourra être révoquée le jour où Méhémet Ali ou les membres de sa famille appelés à lui succéder se refuseront à les remplir.

Le rang de Pacha d'Egypte devra être déterminé comme étant celui d'un Vizir de l'Empire, et n'ayant en cette qualité, à l'hérédité près, aucune autre prérogative que celles dont jouissent les autres Vizirs.

Quant au mode de la succession, la pensée de la Sublime Porte nous est connue. Elle voudrait se réserver le droit, lorsque la place de Pacha d'Egypte sera vacante, de nommer tel individu de la famille de Méhémet Ali qu'elle jugera y être le plus propre. En tout cas il faudra que ses intentions à cet égard soient bien clairement exprimées dans le firman d'investiture.

Il devra y être dit aussi, que les Pachas d'Egypte seront tenus à l'avenir, tant à l'époque de leur nomination qu'à l'occasion de l'avènement d'un Sultan, à se rendre de leurs personnes à Constantinople pour y prêter le serment exigé, et y recevoir l'investiture, et qu'ils ne pourront en aucun cas prendre le titre de Gouverneur de la province placée sous leur administration avant d'avoir rempli cette formalité.

La Sublime Porte parait désirer que ni Méhémet Ali ni son fils Ibrahim viennent ici à l'occasion de l'investiture, leur apparition pouvant faire naître une foule d'intrigues qu'il est bon de prévenir; mais si Méhémet Ali voulait y envoyer son fils Said Bey, un pareil acte de soumission serait peut-être agréable au Sultan, et ferait un bon effet dans le public.

(Translation.)

Upon the conditions to be attached to the concession of the Hereditary Government of Egypt, which the Sultan has declared his willingness to grant to Mehemet Ali.

THE moment being arrived when the Sublime Porte will have to make known to Mehemet Ali the conditions on which the Sultan will be pleased to grant to him the hereditary Pashalic of Egypt, our instructions enjoin us to offer to it some advice dictated by the constant solicitude of our Governments for the interests of His Imperial Majesty. This advice will thus be the completion of the succour and the support which they have afforded to this monarch in the very memorable undertaking which, thanks to Divine Providence, has just been brought to an end in a manner so advantageous and so glorious for him.

I am about to enumerate in this place the most important points to be settled with Mehemet Ali, and to add thereto some explanations which will serve to make known to the Sublime Porte our thoughts in this respect. In the present instance also, the Treaty of the 15th of July, the effects of which have been so beneficial to us, will serve for our ground-work. The stipulations contained in the Separate Act of that Treaty, and which are to be now carried into effect, are the following:

ARTICLE III.

"The annual tribute to be paid to the Sultan by Mehemet Ali shall be proportioned to the greater or less amount of territory of which the latter may obtain the administration."

This territory is limited at present to Egypt alone, for which it was fixed in 1811, that he should pay 12,000 purses, which, at the present course of Turkish money, is equivalent to a sum more than quadruple, that is, to 50,000 purses. But as it is matter of public notoriety, that the revenues of this province alone have since been carried up to 400,000 purses, without the country having suffered from it*, and that the expenses of administration at the present time, when the Pasha has no longer occasion for a fleet and an army, since his future position is secured, can be covered by a fourth part of that sum, the tribute to be hereafter paid will necessarily have to be augmented to a much greater amount, which it shall please His Highness to fix.

The particulars contained in the annexed paper on the finances of Egypt might be a guide to the Ottoman Ministers in this respect. We must on this occasion draw their attention to the arrears due by Mehemet Ali for the years 1839 and 1840, and which may, with perfect justice, be demanded of him. Another point still more important for the Sublime Porte is, that it should endeavour to secure itself against the depreciation of the coin, and the variation in the course of exchange. For this purpose it might, when the amount of tribute shall be fixed, determine the value thereof in Egyptian piastres, according to their present rate and weight, up to the time when the improve-

* Mehemet Ali, according to his own admission, has caused them to amount to a much greater sum during these last years.

ments which the Porte purposes to introduce into its monetary system, can be carried into effect, and when, consequently, the Egyptian piastres will be able to be replaced, without detriment to the Imperial Treasury, by Turkish piastres.

It is understood that if Mehemet Ali should desire to take credit for, or to deduct from the tribute to be paid by him, the expenses which he has incurred for the maintenance of the Ottoman fleet during the whole time which it has remained in the Egyptian ports, such a pretension shall be declared inadmissible according to the tenour of the Fourth Article of the Separate Act, which has provided for this contingency.

ARTICLE V.

"All the Treaties, and all the Laws of the Ottoman Empire shall be applicable to Egypt, in the same manner as to every other part of that Empire. But the Sultan consents, that on condition of the regular payment of the tribute above-mentioned, Mehemet Ali and his descendants shall collect, in the name of the Sultan, and as delegates of his Highness, within the provinces, the administration of which shall be confided to them, the taxes and imposts legally established. It is moreover understood, that in consideration of the receipt of the aforesaid taxes and imposts, Mehemet Ali and his descendants shall defray all the expenses of the civil and military administration of the said provinces."

This Article does not require any comment. As Egypt forms part of the Ottoman Empire, the Treaties of the Sublime Porte with Foreign Powers must be executed there with the same strictness as in all its other provinces. The same will be the case with respect to all the laws of the empire, among which the Hatti Sheriff of Gulhané now holds the first place. This Hatti Sheriff, the imperishable monument of glory for the reign of the Sultan Abdul Medjid, and which has united Turkey with the most civilized people of the earth by bonds not hereafter to be dissolved, cannot fail to exercise the most salutary influence upon Egypt. It will secure the people from the tyrannical oppression under which it has hitherto groaned; it will regulate the receipt of the taxes and imposts; it will put an end to the revolting abuses of the conscription, and to the unjust and arbitrary seizures of property, and will ensure to it by degrees all the benefits of an enlightened civilization.

The right of coining money having always been established in Egypt, Mehemet Ali and his successors will continue to enjoy it, but it must be of the same die as that coined at Constantinople. As regards the monetary system, that must be the same for Egypt as for the other parts of the empire, but this cannot be effected until the Porte shall have succeeded in improving its own coin, which unhappily is not of the same value as that of Egypt. An attempt to blend the two systems from the present moment, would be gratuitously to destroy what Mehemet Ali has done of good and useful, and which it is the interest of the Sublime Porte to maintain and successively to establish in all its dominions.

Among the Treaties with Foreign Powers mentioned above, there is one especially, which, if it is maintained in all its strictness, will be capable of opening an era of prosperity to the inhabitants of Egypt, namely, the Treaty of Commerce first concluded with England, and to which the greater part of the European Powers have subsequently acceded. This Treaty, by abolishing monopolies, will give a free course to industry, will put an end to a multitude of arbitrary exactions oppressive to the people, which it will thus extricate from the abject and miserable condition under which they now groan, and will ensure the prosperity of the country, by restoring to agriculture very considerable portions of land which have remained uncultivated up to the present time.

ARTICLE VI.

"The military and naval forces which may be maintained by the Pasha of Egypt, forming part of the forces of the Ottoman Empire, shall always be considered as maintained for the service of the State."

This Article requires some explanation. As the Egyptian forces are hereafter to form part of those of the Sultan, it is understood that it belongs

to His Imperial Majesty to determine the number and distribution of them, and to summon them in time of war to that point of the Empire at which their presence may be deemed necessary.

The appointment of military and naval officers can only be made in Egypt by the Sultan, as in all the other provinces of the Empire. Nevertheless, the Sultan, by special favour, and in consideration of the remoteness of Egypt, might authorize the Pasha to grant promotions in the name of His Imperial Majesty up to the rank of Yous-bashi inclusively in the land forces, and of first lieutenant in the fleet. All the officers at present employed in Egypt, must, in order to be able to remain there, obtain from the Sultan the confirmation of their ranks. Still it would, as it appears, be requisite to give them beforehand the assurance that such confirmation will be granted to them without difficulty. By this means all notions of reaction or revenge will be put aside.

It is understood that Mehemet Ali cannot hereafter cause any vessel of war to be built without the express permission of His Imperial Majesty.

The Egyptian flag must henceforth be replaced by the flag of His Imperial Majesty, such as is used in all the other parts of the Empire. The same is the case with the Egyptian uniform for the land and sea forces, which must be replaced by the dress worn in the other parts of the Ottoman Empire; and the modifications rendered necessary by the climate, such, for instance, as the employment of lighter stuffs, can alone be adopted after His Imperial Majesty shall have assented to them.

When all these points shall have been definitively settled by the Sultan and his Ministers, which it appears to me important to do without delay, His Imperial Majesty's determinations will have to be announced to Mehemet Ali by the firman which shall invest him with the hereditary government of Egypt. It should be clearly expressed therein, that this great and important concession which the Sultan in his magnanimity has been pleased to make, depends on the faithful execution of the conditions above-mentioned, and will be subject to revocation the day that Mehemet Ali or the members of his family called upon to succeed him, shall refuse to fulfil them.

The rank of Pasha of Egypt should be fixed as that of a Vizier of the Empire, and not having in this character, with the exception of hereditary right, any other prerogative than those enjoyed by the other Viziers.

As regards the mode of succession, we are acquainted with the notion of the Sublime Porte. It would wish to reserve to itself the right, when the place of Pasha of Egypt shall be vacant, to name such person of the family of Mehemet Ali as it shall consider best qualified for it. In any case, it will be requisite that its intentions in this respect shall be very clearly expressed in the firman of investiture.

It should also be stated therein, that the Pashas of Egypt are bound henceforth, at well as the time of their nomination, as on the occasion of the accession of a Sultan, to proceed in person to Constantinople, there to take the required oath, and receive the investiture, and that they can in no case assume the title of Governor of the province placed under their administration before fulfilling that formality.

The Sublime Porte appears to be desirous that neither Mehemet Ali nor his son Ibrahim should come here on the occasion of the investiture, as their appearance might give rise to a multitude of intrigues which it is well to prevent; but if Mehemet Ali should be willing to send hither his son Said Bey, such an act of submission would perhaps be agreeable to the Sultan, and would produce a good effect on the public.

Sub-Inclosure 1 in No. 162.

Du Tribut que paie l'Egypte.

MEHEMET ALI fut installé dans le Pachalic d'Egypte en 1806, à condition qu'il enverrait au Sultan un présent de quatre mille bourses, qui, d'après le cours d'alors, représentaient à-peu-près la somme de deux millions quatre cent mille florins.

Le Pachalic d'Egypte d'alors était communement appelé le Pachalic du

Caire (Belled el Mase), il ne s'étendait qu'à l'Egypte Moyenne et au Delta. Le Said (Haute Egypte) était divisé en plusieurs Baililus, et administré par les Beys Mamelouks, et Alexandrie avec une partie de la province Béhéré par un Pacha indépendant de celui du Caire.

Peu après l'installation de Méhémet Ali dans le Pachalic d'Egypte, la Porte consentit à lui donner l'administration du Pachalic d'Alexandrie en récompense des services qu'il avait rendus à l'Empire en 1807, à l'occasion de l'évacuation de la Basse Egypte et de la ville d'Alexandrie par les Anglais.

Les revenus de ces deux Pachalics se composaient :

1°. Du Miri sur les terres cultivées alors par les fellahs non dépendant des Beys ;

2°. Des droits d'importation et d'exportation de douanes de Suez, du Caire, de Damiette, de Rosette, et d'Alexandrie ;

3°. Du droit sur les Caravanes du Sennar, Darfour et Cordoufan ;

4°. Du Karatsch, payé par les Rayas.

Il n'y a point de données tant soit peu dignes de foi ni sur le montant de ces revenus, ni sur celui des dépenses. Méhémet Ali assure cependant que son Hasné ne réalisait jamais au-delà de 35,000 bourses par an, et que les frais pour l'administration civile et pour les troupes lui laissaient à peine autant qu'il fallait pour vivre et pour contenter ceux de Constantinople.

Pour améliorer l'état de ses finances, il avait voulu augmenter le miri, mais ayant trouvé une opposition très-décidée dans le corps des Oulemas, et des Propriétaires, qui ne cessaient de lui rappeler le Firman du Sultan Sélim, par lequel les impôts en Egypte avaient été invariablement fixés, Méhémet Ali abandonna cette idée et se résigna d'autant plus que la présence des Mamelouks lui paraissait dangereuse pour une innovation qui d'ailleurs n'était nullement populaire.

Cependant, après la défaite des Mamelouks en 1811, Méhémet Ali s'empara du Said. Il en sollicitait l'investiture, offrant une augmentation considérable du tribut.

Cette investiture lui fut accordée, à condition qu'il paierait un tribut de douze mille bourses par an, qui, d'après le cours d'alors, équivalaient à deux millions quatre cent mille florins. Débarrassé des Mamelouks, Méhémet Ali, d'accord avec les Oulemas, et faisant valoir la dépréciation des piastres, augmenta considérablement le miri et les droits des douanes pour le commerce de l'intérieur : ses revenus avaient triplés.

Il était, en outre, devenu propriétaire de la majeure partie des biens fonds abandonnés par les Mamelouks du Said, et obtint la dévolution de toutes les propriétés dont les titres d'acquisition (Hodgets) n'étaient pas rédigés d'après un règlement établi par lui peu de semaines avant sa loi d'expropriation forcée.

Méhémet Ali était déjà à même de défrayer un état des dépenses de 125,000 bourses, et les recettes présentaient un excédant considérable.

La Porte ayant eu connaissance positive de l'état favorable des finances d'Egypte, témoigna le désir d'en partager les revenus. En conséquence de cela, Satif Pacha fut chargé de demander une augmentation du tribut, mais Méhémet Ali, sous prétexte que la guerre d'Arabie lui causait de grands frais, s'y refusa nettement. Satif Pacha, instigateur de la susdite demande d'augmentation du tribut, fut ensuite, sous prétexte d'avoir voulu provoquer une révolte et déposséder Méhémet Ali, publiquement décapité au Caire.

Une semblable demande fut faite en dernier lieu en 1824, mais alors c'était la guerre de la Morée qui mit Méhémet Ali dans l'impossibilité d'y faire droit.

Cependant, les revenus de Méhémet Ali augmentaient considérablement. Elles étaient en 1824 de 240,000 bourses.

Mais comme ses armemens de terre et de mer augmentaient toujours, cet état de recettes ne couvrait pas celui des dépenses.

Il avait donc imaginé une quantité de monopoles et d'appaltes, qu'il fit exploiter avec toute la sévérité fiscale.

En 1830 (1245 de la Hejré) le Grand Seigneur lui a confié l'administration de l'Ile de Candie.

Le tribut n'a pas été fixé, parceque l'île, tout-à-fait dévastée par la guerre civile, présentait un *déficit*. Moustapha Pacha prélevait sur les revenus, à titre de ses appointemens, 2,500,000 piastres par an.

Ainsi, malgré cette nouvelle acquisition, malgré la forte dépréciation des

piastres, et malgré l'énorme accroissement des revenus de l'Egypte, le tribut de 12,000 bourses est resté intact.

Les Recettes en 1830 étaient de	493,791 bourses
Les Dépenses - - - -	444,872
Excédant de Recettes	48,919

En 1833 un Budget fut officiellement dressé et publié, et établit les Recettes et les Dépenses comme suit :

Recettes - - - -	505,135 bourses
Dépenses - - - -	415,513
Excédant de Recettes -	89,622

Nous ne pouvons pas dire si ce Budget d'Egypte est réel ou hypothétique—nous nous bornons à en donner une traduction exacte ci-après.

Le fait est que la guerre de Syrie avait coûtée au-delà de 300,000 bourses, et que le Hasné, d'après les aveux du Hasnadar à la fin de l'exercice 1248 (1833), bien loin de présenter un excédant de Recettes comme l'établit le Budget, se trouvait au-dessous de 165,000 bourses ; Méhémet Ali ne voulait plus de Budget, il suspendit le paiement du solde des troupes et des fonctionnaires civils, et se déclara même hors d'état de payer le tribut.

D'après l'arrangement du 14 Mai, 1833, Méhémet Ali consentit à payer pour l'Egypte le même tribut qu'il payait jusqu'alors ; et pour les Pachalics de la Syrie, d'Adana, et de la Crète, ce qu'avaient payé ses prédécesseurs, ce qui fut établi ainsi qu'il suit:

Egypte - - - -	12,000 bourses
Candie - - - -	2,000
Syrie et Adana - -	18,000
En tout - -	32,000

Ce qui équivaut à un million six cent mille florins : c'est-à-dire, Méhémet Ali paie huit cent mille florins de moins qu'il payait pour le seul Pachalic d'Egypte sans le Said, sans Alexandrie, sans la faculté d'augmenter le miri et établir des monopoles, qu'il a su exploiter avec autant d'adresse que de cruauté, au point que, d'après son aveu, ces différens chefs d'impôts directs et indirects, y compris la Syrie et la Candie, lui ont fourni en 1838 neuf cent mille bourses.

Nous ne connaissons pas exactement les détails de cet immense revenu, ni des dépenses qui en dépendent, mais nous savons que malgré les assurances de Méhémet Ali, que cette année lui donnait un excédant de recettes de 197,000 bourses, il n'a pu ni payer l'armée, ni défrayer les différens services qui en dépendent, ni payer la flotte ni les employés de l'administration du pays. L'Armée réclame de 16 à 18 mois, l'Escadre 11 mois, les Employés 13 mois de solde ; le tribut est dû pour 1839 et 1840. On peut évaluer ces différens arriérés à cinq cent mille bourses, ce qui correspond exactement à vingt cinq millions de florins de Convention.

Nous pensons que Méhémet Ali, voulant réduire les impôts à un taux compatible avec le Hatti-Chérif de Gulhané et avec le Traité de Commerce, pourra compter sur un revenu de 400,000 bourses par an ; de l'autre côté, débarrassé du surplus de l'armée de terre et de mer, des ruineuses commissions données à l'étranger, des constructions navales, et des dépenses secrètes, il pourra réduire les frais à 100,000 bourses. Ce qui lui donnera l'énorme excédant, d'à-peu-près 300,000 bourses, ou 15,000,000 de florins.

Nous pensons que notre calcul est une raisonnable approximative, car le miri, qui ne pèse actuellement que sur 3,856,226 feddans, produit 225,000 bourses. Or, il y a 3,157,000 feddans de terrains incultes, dont deux tiers pourraient être défriché sans la conscription et sans les travaux forcés, qui, outre la consommation réelle en hommes, causent une émigration qui enlève encore plus d'individus à l'agriculture que l'armée ; cela produirait 120 à 130,000 bourses.

Ajoutons à cela le produit des douanes d'importation (de manufactures, vins, &c., d'Europe et d'Asie) et d'exportation d'objets non monopolisés, comme manufactures Egyptiennes, indigo, sucre, gommes et autres drogues, tel qu'il est actuellement fixé par les contrats de ferme avec 20,000 bourses ; et les douanes pour les céréales, qui formaient l'objet des monopoles, tel que blés, orges, riz, fèves, lentilles, dourah, et autres, dont l'exportation s'élève, année commune, de

6 à 700,000 ardebs, et qui, d'après le nouveau Traité de Commerce, pourront être exportés en payant 9 pour cent, ce qui produira 18,000 bourses.

Coton - - - - -	10,000
Lin et grain de lin - - -	1,200
Droit de transit du café, ivoire, plumes d'Autruche, poudre d'or, et autres objets de commerce d'Afrique et d'Arabie - -	6,000

Ainsi Méhémet Ali pourra abolir tous les autres droits, taxes, et impôts, délivrer les paysans et les industriels des plus cruelles exigeances et vexations fiscales, et simplifier la perception du miri et des douanes, et en supprimant les innombrables monopoles donner à son administration une marche égale, ferme, et humaine.

Le chiffre de revenus ci-dessus n'est nullement exagéré. Méhémet Ali lui-même assurait que le miri et les douanes de l'Egypte seule, cultivée ainsi qu'il se proposait de le faire aussitôt qu'il pourra mettre fin à ses démonstrations belliqueuses, pourraient lui donner dix millions de florins par an, frais d'administrations, entretien, &c. payé.

S'agissant de fixer le montant du tribut que Méhémet Ali aura désormais à payer pour l'Egypte, il est de toute convenance d'avoir égard aux données que nous venons d'énoncer.

(Translation.)

On the Tribute paid by Egypt.

MEHEMET ALI was installed in the Pashalic of Egypt in 1806, on condition that he should send to the Sultan a present of 4000 purses, which, according to the course of exchange at that time, represented about the sum of 2,400,000 florins.

The Pashalic of Egypt at that time was commonly called the Pashalic of Cairo (Belled el Mase); it extended only to Middle Egypt and to the Delta. The Said (Upper Egypt) was divided into several districts, and administered by the Mameluke Beys, and Alexandria with a part of the Province Béhéré by a Pasha, independent of the Pasha of Cairo.

A short time after the installation of Mehemet Ali in the Pashalic of Egypt, the Porte consented to give him the administration of the Pashalic of Alexandria as a reward for the services which he had rendered to the Empire in 1807, on the occasion of the evacuation of Lower Egypt and of the City of Alexandria by the English.

The revenues of these two Pashalics were composed :—

1. Of the Land Tax upon the lands at that time cultivated by the Fellahs, not dependent on the Beys.
2. Of the Customs-duties of import and export at Suez, Cairo, Damietta, Rosetta, and Alexandria.
3. Of the duty on the Caravaans of Sennaar, Darfour, and Cordufan.
4. Of the Capitation Tax, paid by the Rayahs.

There are no data at all worthy of credit, either as to the amount of these revenues, or as to that of the expences. Mehemet Ali, however, asserts that his treasury never realized above 35,000 purses a year, and that the expences of the civil administration and of the troops left him scarcely sufficient to maintain himself and to satisfy the people of Constantinople.

In order to improve the state of his finances, he had wished to increase the land tax, but having encountered very decided opposition in the body of the Ulemas and of the proprietors, who did not cease to remind him of the firman of Sultan Selim, by which the taxes in Egypt had been invariably fixed, Mehemet Ali gave up that notion, and was the more resigned in doing so, as the presence of the Mamelukes appeared to him to be dangerous with reference to an innovation, which was besides by no means popular.

Nevertheless, after the defeat of the Mamelukes in 1811, Mehemet Ali made himself master of the Said. He solicited the investiture of it, offering a considerable increase of tribute.

That investiture was granted to him, on condition that he should pay 12,000 purses a year, which, according to the course of exchange at that time, was equivalent to 2,400,000 florins. Being relieved from the Mamelukes, Mehemet Ali, with the concurrence of the Ulemas, and alleging the depreciation of the piastres, increased considerably the land tax and the duties of customs on the internal trade: his revenues were tripled.

He had besides become proprietor of the greater part of the real property abandoned by the Mamelukes of the Said, and he acquired the reversion of all the properties of which the title-deeds were not drawn up according to a regulation established by him a few weeks before his law of compulsory surrender.

Mehemet Ali was already in a state to defray an expenditure of 125,000 purses, and the receipts showed a considerable excess.

The Porte having positive knowledge of the favourable state of the finances of Egypt, manifested a wish to share its revenues. In consequence of that, Satif Pasha was directed to demand an increase of tribute, but Mehemet Ali, under pretence that the war in Arabia occasioned him great expence, flatly refused it. Satif Pasha, who had instigated the above-mentioned demand for an increase, was afterwards, on the pretence that he had wished to excite a revolt, and dispossess Mehemet Ali, publicly beheaded in Cairo.

A similar demand was made in the last instance in 1824, but then it was the war of the Morea which rendered Mehemet Ali unable to comply with it.

Meanwhile, the revenues of Mehemet Ali increased considerably. In 1824, they amounted to 24,000 purses.

But as his armaments by land and sea were continually increased, this state of receipts did not cover that of expenditure.

He then devised a number of monopolies and appaltos, which he carried through with every fiscal severity.

In 1830 (1245 of the Hegira), the Grand Seignor conferred upon him the administration of the Island of Candia.

The tribute was not settled, because the island, being altogether laid waste by civil war, presented a deficit. Mustapha Pasha deducted from its revenues, as his allowances, 2,500,000 piastres a year.

Thus, notwithstanding this new acquisition, notwithstanding the great depreciation of the piastres, and notwithstanding the enormous increase of the revenues of Egypt, the tribute of 12,000 purses remained untouched.

The receipts in 1830, were - -	493,791 purses
The expenditure - - -	444,872
Excess of receipts - -	48,919

In 1833, a budget was officially drawn up and published, and exhibited the receipts and the expenditure as follows:

Receipts - - - -	505,135 purses
Expenditure - - - -	415,513
Excess of receipts -	89,622

We are unable to say whether this budget of Egypt is real or imaginary; we confine ourselves to giving an exact translation of it.

The fact is that the war of Syria had cost above 300,000 purses, and that the treasury, according to the admissions of the Treasurer at the end of the period 1248 (1833), far from presenting an excess of receipts as exhibited by the budget, was 165,000 purses deficient; Mehemet Ali would have nothing further to do with a budget; he suspended the issue of pay to the troops and civil officers, and declared himself even incapable of paying the tribute.

According to the arrangement of May 14, 1833, Mehemet Ali consented to pay for Egypt the same tribute which he paid up to that time, and for the Pashalics of Syria, Adana, and Crete, what his predecessors had paid, which was settled as follows:—

Egypt . . .	12,000 purses.
Candia . . .	2,000 „
Syria and Adana . .	18,000 „
	42,000 „

Which is equivalent to 1,600,000 florins: that is to say, Mehemet Ali pays 800,000 florins less than he paid for the Pashalic of Egypt alone, without the Said, without Alexandria, without the power of increasing the land tax and establishing monopolies, which he has known how to turn to account with as much address as cruelty, to such an extent as that, by his own admission, these different heads of direct and indirect taxes, including therein Syria and Candia, furnished him in 1838 with 900,000 purses.

We are not exactly aware of the details of this immense revenue, nor of the expenses connected with it; but we know that notwithstanding Mehemet Ali's assurances that this year gave him an excess of 197,000 purses, he has not been able either to pay the army, or to defray the charges of the different services connected with it, or to pay the fleet or the civil servants of the country. The army claims pay for sixteen or eighteen months, the fleet for eleven, the civil servants for thirteen; the tribute is owing for 1839 and 1840. These different arrears may be calculated at 500,000 purses, which tallies exactly with 25,000,000 of Convention florins.

We conceive that Mehemet Ali, if he chooses to reduce the taxes to a scale consistent with the Hatti Sheriff of Gulhané and with the Treaty of Commerce, can reckon upon a revenue of 400,000 purses a year; on the other hand, being relieved from the surplus of the land and sea forces, from the ruinous commissions which he gives in foreign countries, from ship-building, and from secret expences, he will be able to reduce his expenditure to 100,000 purses. This will give him the enormous excess of nearly 300,000 purses, or 15,000,000 florins.

We consider that our calculation is a reasonable estimate; for the land-tax, which at present affects only 3,856,226 feddans, produces 225,000 purses. Now there are 3,157,000 feddans of uncultivated lands, two-thirds of which might be cleared without the conscription and without forced labour, which, besides the real consumption of men, occasion an emigration which deprives agriculture of more individuals than even the army: that would produce from 120,000 to 130,000 purses.

Add to this the produce of the duties on imports (of manufactures, wines, &c., of Europe and of Asia,) and on the export of objects not subject to monopoly, as Egyptian manufactures, indigo, sugar, gums, and other drugs, such as it is now fixed by lease at 20,000 purses, and the duties on the grains which were monopolized, such as wheat, barley, rice, beans, lentils, dourah, and others, the exportation of which in ordinary years amounts from 600,000 to 700,000 ardebs, and which, according to the new Treaty, can be exported on paying 9 per cent., which will produce . . . . . 18,000 purses

Cotton	10,000 „
Flax and flax-seed	1,200 „
Transit duty on coffee, ivory, ostrich feathers, gold dust, and other objects of trade, from Africa and from Arabia . .	6,000 „

Thus Mehemet Ali will be able to abolish all the other duties, taxes, and imposts, to deliver the peasants and the working classes from the most cruel exactions and fiscal vexations, and to simplify the receipt of the land-tax and of the customs, and, by suppressing the innumerable monopolies, give to his administration an equitable, steady, and humane direction.

The above amount of revenues is by no means exaggerated. Mehemet Ali himself asserted that the land-tax and customs of Egypt alone, cultivated in the manner in which he proposed that it should be as soon as he could put an end to his warlike demonstrations, might give him 10,000,000 florins a year, after paying the expences of administration and maintenance.

As there is a question of fixing the amount of tribute which Mehemet Ali shall hereafter have to pay for Egypt, it is altogether proper to pay attention to the data above set forth.

Sub-Inclosure 2 in No 149.

Budget de l'Egypte pour l'Exercice 1833.

Revenus de l'Egypte pendant 1833.

	Francs.
Miri ou Impôt Foncier	28,125,000
Droit de Capitation, dit Fisdet il Rouss	8,750,000
Droit du Karatsch	80,000
Droit sur les Successions, dit Beit-el-mal	150,000
Droit sur les Bestiaux destinés à être abattus	250,000
Droit sur les Okels et Bazars de la Haute Egypte	48,000
Droit sur les Danseuses, les Musiciens, et les Escamoteurs	60,000
Droit sur la Fonte de l'Argent et des Galons	56,250
Droit sur les Dattiers	500,000
Droit sur la Pêche du Lac Menzaleh	250,000
Droit sur le Sel, les Barques, et le Poisson	438,000
Droit sur les Céréales	4,500,000
Produit des Douanes et Droits d'Octroi	3,070,500
Appalte des Liquides	346,000
Appalte du Séné	32,500
Appalte de la Pêche du Lac Keroun, et Droits d'Octroi du Fayoum	72,500
Bénéfices sur le Coton, l'Indigo, l'Opium, le Sucre, le Vin, le Riz, le Miel, la Cire, le Henneh, l'Eau de Rose, la Graine de Lin, de Sésame, de Laitue, de Carthame, la Soie, le Safranum, le Nitre, la Chaux, le Plâtre, et les Pierres, le Natron, la Soude, le Sel Ammoniac	12,000,000
Bénéfices sur l'Hôtel des Monnaies	375,000
Bénéfices sur les Toiles	1,500,000
Bénéfices sur la Fabriques des Etoffes de Soie	1,200,000
Bénéfices sur les Cuirs Bruts et Apprêtés	875,000
Bénéfices sur la Vente des Nattes	100,000
Total	62,778,750

Etat des Dépenses pendant 1833.

	Francs.
Envoi d'Argent à Constantinople	1,500,000
Budget de l'Armée	15,000,000
Traitemens des Officiers Chefs d'Administration	5,000,000
Solde de la Cavalerie Turque Irrégulière	812,000
Solde des Arabes Bédouins	650,000
Pour le Matériel de la Guerre	1,750,000
Montant des Rations de Fourrages, Mules, Chameaux	312,000
Ecole Militaire	200,000
Budget du Personnel de la Marine	7,500,000
Construction des Bâtimens de Guerre	1,875,000
Frais pour Chantiers de Construction des Barques à Boulac	412,500
Entretiens des Fabriques et Salaires des Ouvriers	2,750,000
Entretiens des Employés d'Administration	2,500,000
Rations de Bouche accordées aux Employés	625,000
Pensions aux Anciens Moultegims	440,000
Pensions accordées à plusieurs Arabes	750,000
Dépenses pour les Constructions de Palais, de Fabriques, Ponts, Digues	2,250,000
Objets tirés d'Europe pour les Fabriques	1,875,000
Dépenses pour l'Entretien des Palais du Vice-Roi	1,250,000
Dépenses de Bouche du Vice-Roi	500,000
Pour l'Administration des Achats de Cachemires, Étoffes de Soie, Bijoux	1,750,000
Dépenses pour les Caravanes des Pélérins	250,000
Total	49,951,500

(Translation.)

Budget of Egypt for the Year 1833.

Revenues of Egypt during 1833.

	Francs.
Miri, or Land Tax	28,125,000
Capitation Tax, called Fisdet il Rouss	8,750,000
Capitation Tax	80,000
Tax on Inheritance, called Beit-el-mal	150,000
on Beasts for slaughter	250,000
on the Markets and Bazaars of Upper Egypt	48,000
on Dancing Girls, Musicians, and Jugglers	60,000
on Silver Castings and Lace	56,250
on Date Trees	500,000
on the Fishery of Lake Menzaleh	250,000
on Salt, Boats, and Fish	438,000
on Corn	4,500,000
Produce of Customs, and Municipal Duties	3,070,500
Farm of Liquids	346,000
of Senna	32,500
of the Fishery of Lake Keroun, and Municipal Duties of the Fayoum	72,500
Profits on Cotton, Indigo, Opium, Sugar, Wine, Rice, Honey, Wax, Henneh, Rose Water, Flax Seed, Sesame, Lettuce, Cardamon, Silk, Saffron, Nitre, Lime, Plaster, Stone, Natron, Soda, Sal Ammoniac	12,000,000
on the Mint	375,000
on Linen Cloth	1,500,000
on Silk Manufactures	1,200,000
on raw and dressed Hides	875,000
on the sale of Mats	100,000
Total	62,778,750

State of Expenses during 1833.

	Francs.
Money sent to Constantinople	1,500,000
The Army	15,000,000
Salaries of Superior Civil Officers	5,000,000
Pay of irregular Turkish Cavalry	812,000
of the Bedouin Arabs	650,000
Military Stores	1,750,000
Charges for Rations of Forage, Mules, and Camels	312,000
Military School	200,000
Navy	7,500,000
Ships building	1,875,000
Expenses of Ship-Building Establishment at Boulac	412,500
Maintenance of Factories and Wages of Workmen	2,750,000
Maintenance of Civil Servants	2,500,000
Provisions for Civil Servants	625,000
Pensions to the old Moultegims	440,000
Pensions granted to several Arabs	750,000
Expenses for Building Palaces, Factories, Bridges, Dikes	2,250,000
Articles obtained from Europe for the Factories	1,875,000
Expenses for keeping up the Viceroy's Palaces	1,250,000
Expenses of the Viceroy's living	500,000
For the department for the purchase of Cashmeers, Silk Stuffs, and Jewels	1,750,000
Expenses for the Pilgrim Caravans	250,000
Total	49,951,500

Inclosure 2 in No. 162.

Viscount Ponsonby to Baron de Stürmer.

(Extract.) *Therapia, Thursday, January* 28, 1841.

MY proposition is, that the Sultan shall issue a Firman in the usual form, saying, that moved by the submission of Mehemet Ali, His Imperial Majesty thinks proper to confer upon Mehemet Ali a signal mark of his Royal favour, and he therefore orders that the post of Governor of Egypt shall be hereditary in the family of Mehemet Ali, and he commands all his Viziers and officers, &c. to attend to this Imperial Ordinance, and to bear in mind that all the Laws of the Empire, and all the Treaties of the Sublime Porte, shall apply to Egypt just as much as to any other province of the Sultan's Dominions.

The object I have in view is to unite in one solemn act the proofs of the concession made, and the manifestation of the Sovereign Authority of the Sultan by its exercise.

I propose that this act of authority should be followed in due time by the specification of the nature and extent of the administrative powers which the Sultan shall think proper to confide to the Governor of Egypt. This last measure will require great consideration, for it will be an act of great importance, and if not done with prudence and firmness, must produce great embarrassment, if not put the future tranquillity of this Empire in danger. It appears to me that the Firman above mentioned will be a formal termination of the Question by the establishment of the principle upon which the Empire is to be governed. It asserts and declares the rights of the parties. The exercise or the enjoyment of those rights is a separate question, and can be more correctly treated when put in its proper place, as derivative from and dependent upon the great principles already recognized.

I presume we shall have time enough to examine carefully and to settle this second affair.

If this proposal should continue to meet with your approbation, and should also be approved of by our Colleagues, it might be made the subject of a suggestion to the Porte, and if concurred in by the Sultan, and carried into execution, it would then be proper to forward the Firman to Alexandria to be delivered to Mehemet Ali, and a notification of the fact, together with a copy of the Firman, might be officially communicated by the Ottoman Ambassador in London to the Conference assembled in that Capital.

I have endeavoured to be as brief as possible, and I have abstained from all the minor questions, upon which, however, I have much to say when the time comes for their discussion.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 3 in No. 162.

Viscount Ponsonby to M. Titow.

My dear Sir, *Therapia, January* 22, 1841.

I BELIEVE I shall perform what you desired to have done by giving you extracts from Lord Palmerston's last instruction to me, dated December 17, 1840, showing the conditions which are to be imposed upon Mehemet Ali. I did not understand you to desire the earlier parts of it, which touch the past, and direct me to consider submission to have been made, and which assume that all is going on satisfactorily.

"It would indeed be necessary, that in reinstating Mehemet Ali in the Pashalic of Egypt, care should be taken to make such arrangements as would protect the people of Egypt from a continuance of the tyrannical oppression by which they have of late years been crushed, and should secure the Sultan against a renewal of those hostilities which have compelled him to have recourse to the aid of his Allies. But the means of effecting all these purposes may be

found in the stipulations of the Treaty of the 15th of July, without removing Mehemet Ali from his Pashalic. The Treaty says that all the laws of the Turkish Empire, and all the Treaties of the Porte, shall apply to Egypt, just as much as to any other province of the Sultan's dominions; and that the land and sea forces which may be maintained by the Pasha of Egypt, shall be part of the forces of the Empire, and be kept up for the service of the State.

"Under these stipulations, the Sultan will of course be able, by an exercise of his legislative authority, to establish unity of flag and military and naval uniform throughout all his provinces; to limit the number of troops which each province shall, according to its population, maintain; to regulate the mode of enforcing the conscription, so as to protect the people from undue burthens and oppressive levies; to fix the number and the class of ships of war which shall belong to the several naval ports of his dominions; to fix the manner in which commissions in the Army and Navy shall be granted in his name, and by his authority; to determine that a single monetary system shall prevail throughout his dominions, and that there shall be but one Mint. The Treaty specifies that none but the legal imposts shall be levied in Egypt, which will secure the people from undue exactions; and the execution of the Convention of 1838, by which all monopolies are to be abolished, will at once free the people of Egypt from those oppressive restrictions which have hitherto kept the great mass of the population in the most abject poverty, and which have gradually thrown out of cultivation extensive tracts of land that were formerly tilled and productive.

"By such means it seems to Her Majesty's Government, that future security might be afforded both to the Sultan and to his Egyptian subjects against the disposition of Mehemet Ali to rebel against his Sovereign, and to oppress the people of the province he would have to govern."

I know my Government is very desirous to have this question settled as rapidly as possible, and I hope it may be agreeable to yourself and our Colleagues to proceed with it. I do not see that we have much to do, our line being clearly marked out for us. You agreed with me that the Sultan, having accepted the restoration of the Fleet as the submission of Mehemet Ali, and having declared his intention to give him the Government (Hereditary) of Egypt, it is now proper that His Highness should declare his Sovereign pleasure, and fix the conditions upon which he grants the Government, and that this should be done by a Royal Firman, which should be sent to Mehemet Ali.

I presume it would be necessary to invite the Porte, as soon as the Firman shall have been completed and sent to Alexandria, to order copy of it to be officially communicated by the Ottoman Ambassador to the Conference in London.

The conditions recited above are imperative upon me, and I cannot advise the Porte except in entire conformity with them; only, Lord Palmerston having mentioned the expediency of the Sultan reserving the right to designate the individual of the family of Mehemet Ali who shall succeed to the Pashalic, and that it should not be left to the governing Pasha to select his successor, that might be added.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 4 in No. 162.

M. Titow to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Péra, le* $\frac{17}{29}$ *Janvier,* 1841.

J'AI parcouru avec beaucoup d'attention la lettre de votre Excellence au Baron de Stürmer, et je ne saurais assez vous remercier d'avoir bien voulu me la communiquer. Nous nous sommes réunis bientôt après midi chez M. l'Internonce avec le Comte Kœnigsmarck, et tous trois nous avons été d'accord à reconnaître la prudence et l'opportunité de la proposition émise de votre part. Il parait utile en effet que le Sultan commence par établir ainsi l'exercice général de son autorité souveraine sur l'Egypte, avant d'aborder les détails, et

au moment même où il fera la concession de l'hérédité. La prérogative souveraine serait ainsi confirmée dans toute son étendue, et la porte reste ouverte pour toutes les mesures d'exécution que Sa Hautesse aurait à ordonner par la suite. Le Baron de Stürmer a donc adhéré, comme le Comte Kœnigsmarck et moi, au parti d'offrir aujourd'hui des conseils dans ce sens au Ministre Ottoman, et il s'est rendu en personne chez Réchid Pacha pour l'y préparer.

Je suis heureux, pour ma part, d'avoir pu venir ainsi à la rencontre de vos intentions. Qu'il me soit permis seulement d'émettre ici une remarque faite aussi par l'Internonce au sujet de l'hérédité. Dans la lettre par laquelle vous avez eu la bonté de me communiquer l'extrait des instructions de Lord Palmerston, votre Excellence opinait qu'il serait utile d'annoncer dès à présent que Sa Hautesse se réserve de désigner l'individu de la famille appelé chaque fois à succéder au Pachalic. Pensez-vous, my Lord, que dans nos conseils il serait bon de suggérer dès à présent l'insertion de cette clause restrictive, ou qu'il faut s'en tenir à la rédaction générale et étendue que vous avez proposée? Votre avis à cet égard ne manquera pas d'avoir un grand poids pour nous tous.

Votre, &c.,
(Signé) TITOW.

(Translation.)

My Lord, *Pera, January* $\frac{17}{29}$, 1841.

I HAVE read with much attention your Excellency's letter to Baron Stürmer, and I cannot sufficiently thank you for having had the goodness to communicate it to me. We met soon after midday at the Internuncio's with Count Königsmarck, and we all three admitted the prudence and the fitness of the proposition which you had put forth. It appears in fact advantageous that the Sultan should commence by establishing in this manner the general exercise of his sovereign authority over Egypt, before entering upon the details, and at the same time at which he shall concede the hereditary right. The sovereign prerogative would thus be confirmed in its full extent, and the door would remain open for all the measures of execution which His Highness would eventually have to prescribe. The Baron de Stürmer then, as well as Count Königsmarck and myself, concurred in offering to-day to the Ottoman Minister advice to this effect, and he went in person to Rechid Pasha to prepare him for it.

For my part, I am glad to have had it in my power thus to fall in with your intentions. I would only beg however to be allowed to make in this place a remark which was also made by the Internuncio on the subject of the hereditary succession. In the letter in which you have had the goodness to communicate to me the extract of Lord Palmerston's instructions, your Excellency expressed an opinion that it would be useful to announce at the present time that His Highness reserves to himself to designate the individual of the family who may each time be called upon to succeed to the Pashalic. Are you of opinion, my Lord, that in the advice which we shall give, it would be well at the present moment to suggest the insertion of this restrictive clause, or that we should confine ourselves to the general and comprehensive wording which you have proposed? Your opinion on this point will not fail to have great weight with us all.

Yours, &c.,
(Signed) TITOW.

Inclosure 5 in No. 162.

Viscount Ponsonby to M. Titow.

My dear Sir, *Therapia, January* 29, 1841.

I HAVE this moment received your letter of the 29th instant; it gives me infinite pleasure to learn that yourself and my Colleagues approve of the proposed plan.

I reply at once to your question, and I say that I think it will be more prudent to keep everything like specific arrangement for the settlement that will flow from the assertion and establishment of the Sultan's sovereign authority and right. You will observe that I used the expression, "hereditary in the family of Mehemet Ali," which cannot tie up the Sultan's right to specify the mode in which the succession shall take place; and if it should be argued hereafter that the succession should be in the direct line, (and, as it is called, by representation,) the answer would be easy, that nothing of the sort is known to Turkish law, nor is usual in the East, succession being commonly regulated by very different principles.

I do not see any inconvenience in leaving this matter untouched, but I do fear that any thing that might give Mehemet Ali ground for discussion and dispute at this moment, might be inconvenient, and would be seized upon by him. He cannot deny the Sultan's Sovereignty, which he has already admitted; it will be impossible for him to refuse the Hereditary Right, as it is expressed, without denying, at the same time, the Sovereignty of the Sultan already acknowledged.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 6 in No. 162.

Viscount Ponsonby to Baron de Stürmer.

My dear Baron, *Therapia, January* 31, 1841.

THE plan I suggested to you, and which is stated in my letter of the 28th instant, and was approved of by you and our Colleagues, was intended by me to facilitate and accelerate the settlement of the question with Mehemet Ali: I still think it would do so, but as you and our Colleagues have altered your opinion, I withdraw it.

You appear to have misapprehended the operation of the Firman I mentioned, and to have imagined it would occasion delay. I did not so understand it, and I do not perceive how it would have prevented any arrangement of the conditions being made in half an hour, if determined upon by the Sultan. I have seen no cause for delay except in the difficulties inherent in the construction of the conditions. As there is no longer question of my plan, I should only give you needless trouble by replying to the reasonings contained in your letter; and to spare your time, I will proceed direct to the subject that ought to occupy our attention,—namely, the counsel to be given to the Sultan. You asked me, "Have we a right to act according to our own fancies, when the route we have to pursue is clearly traced for us?" My reply is, we certainly have not: and, in conformity with your just notions, I will continue to act, without the smallest deviation, upon the instructions of December 17, which have already been made known to you, but which, to avoid error, I will transcribe *literatim* from the document.

"It would indeed be necessary, that in reinstating Mehemet Ali in the Pashalic of Egypt, care should be taken to make such arrangements as would protect the people of Egypt from a continuance of the tyrannical oppression by which they have of late years been crushed, and should secure the Sultan against a renewal of those hostilities which have compelled him to have recourse to the aid of his Allies. But the means of effecting all these purposes may be found in the stipulations of the Treaty of the 15th of July, without removing Mehemet Ali from his Pashalic. The Treaty says, that all the laws of the Turkish Empire, and all the Treaties of the Porte, shall apply to Egypt, just as much as to any other province of the Sultan's dominions; and the land and sea forces which may be maintained by the Pasha of Egypt, shall be part of the forces of the Empire, and be kept up for the service of the State.

"Under these stipulations, the Sultan will of course be able, by an exercise of his legislative authority, to establish unity of flag, and of military and naval uniform throughout all his provinces; to limit the number of troops which each province shall, according to its population, maintain; to regulate

the mode of enforcing the conscription, so as to protect the people from undue burthens and oppressive levies; to fix the number and class of ships of war which shall belong to the several naval ports of his dominions; to fix the manner in which commissions in the Army and Navy shall be granted in his name, and by his authority; to determine that a single monetary system shall prevail throughout all his dominions, and that there shall be but one Mint. The Treaty specifies, that none but the legal imposts should be levied in Egypt, which will secure the people from undue exactions; and the execution of the Convention of 1838, by which all monopolies are to be abolished, will at once free the industry of the people of Egypt from those oppressive restrictions which have hitherto kept the great mass of the population in the most abject poverty, and which have gradually thrown out of cultivation extensive tracts of land that were formerly tilled and productive.

"By such means it seems to Her Majesty's Government, that future security might be afforded, both to the Sultan and to his Egyptian subjects, against the disposition of Mehemet Ali to rebel against his Sovereign, and to oppress the people of the province he would have to govern."

The above constitute the sole rule I can follow, and they are the only words I am at liberty to use in the counsel I shall consent to give to the Sublime Porte.

Before I conclude my letter, I wish to observe, that you appear to me to have misunderstood me on the subject of the Convention of 15th July. What I say is, that Mehemet Ali having rejected the offers made to him, the Allies are not bound, to Mehemet Ali, to carry those offers into effect, but that the Allies are free to act as they think proper, and to vary if they please the conditions to be imposed upon Mehemet Ali; and I will avow my opinion to be, that if the precise stipulations in the Convention with regard to the terms there offered to Mehemet Ali, are to be rigidly adhered to, it will be done in contradiction to the other conditions insisted upon by our Governments.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 163.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received February 28.)

My Lord, *Therapia, February 4, 1841.*

I THIS day attended a Conference assembled by desire of his Excellency the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs, at his house in Constantinople.

The Minister opened the business of the day by informing the Representatives of the Four Powers, that he had drawn up a project of conditions to be annexed to the grant to Mehemet Ali of the hereditary Government of Egypt, which project was prepared with the view of meeting the wishes of the Sultan's Allies, such as the Sublime Porte presumed them to be.

The project was then read, and Rechid Pasha asked the Representatives if it met with their approbation, and I was called upon to answer first.

I said, "I had no objection to offer to any of the propositions, excepting to that which established a tribute, upon which I should have to make some observations after my Colleagues had given their answer to the question of his Excellency the Minister. My Colleagues then gave *seriatim* their approbation to all the propositions contained in the project. I expressed my regret to be obliged to differ from my Colleagues, and proceeded to state, that the question being one of extreme gravity, I had thought it expedient to commit to writing what I intended to say upon it; and, that as it might be said to be almost based upon the assumption that the counsel the Representatives should give to the Sublime Porte, must be in exact and rigid conformity with the Convention of 15th July, I had applied myself first to that topic, and had made some brief remarks to show that the Convention is not the absolute rule by which the counsels given by the Representatives to the Porte, are to be governed; and I then proceeded to read a French translation of the inclosed paper.

When I had terminated, his Excellency the Internuncio entered into an

examination of parts of what I had said, and concluded by declaring, that the Convention is the absolute rule by which the counsels given by the Representatives to the Porte must be rigidly governed. Count Kœnigsmarck and M. Titow followed, and made the same declaration.

I abstain from reporting to your Lordship the arguments made use of by my Colleagues, lest I should not do justice to them, and because they will appear in the Protocol, with the authority of their Excellencies. There was a very long discussion, which I have not time to report, and which will also be found, no doubt, in the Protocol: and I proceed to state, that the Ottoman Minister, after that discussion, asked, what would the Three Representatives (who are united in opinion) advise the Sublime Porte to do for ensuring the carrying into effect the measure they approved of, viz., the tribute? To this it was answered, that the Sublime Porte was the sole judge of that matter. His Excellency then asked me how the Sublime Porte should treat Mehemet Ali, if the measure of tribute should not be adopted? I replied, the Porte should treat Mehemet Ali as it would treat every other Pasha.

I must beg your Lordship's indulgence for my not entering into any details; I have had too much fatigue from exposure to the bad weather and a long debate, to be equal to the proper execution of such a work, and I confine myself therefore to brief notices of the main facts, by which your Lordship will lose nothing; because the Protocol will give, more or less well, the particulars. I took but little share in the discussion on what I considered matters of minor importance, as compared with the main question of tribute, being really unable to see how any regulations can palliate the evils of it, and hearing nothing in discourse that showed others to be more clear-sighted than myself.

Rechid and Ahmed Fethi and Riza Pashas were present. They are to report to the Council, and then to the Sultan; and it is promised that the matter shall be speedily decided.

When the discussion of the tribute was over, Rechid said that Mehemet was in possession of the Governments of Dongola, Kordufan, and Sennaar. He asked if it was intended to advise the Sultan to give Mehemet Ali the hereditary Government of them? The Representatives replied unanimously, that those provinces did not belong to Egypt, and that the Representatives did not advise the hereditary grant: and being asked, what should be done about those provinces, they recommended, in conformity with the notion of Rechid Pasha, that the Sultan should tell Mehemet Ali, that His Majesty would leave them under his government for the present.

I took this opportunity to speak of the Slave Trade so long carried on by Mehemet Ali from those provinces; and I stated the atrocities of the chase (as it is called), and the destruction of human life that attends the capture of the 16,000 Negroes annually caught and sent into Lower Egypt by the officers of Mehemet Ali. Rechid Pasha declared his readiness to take the best means in his power to put an end to this great evil: but your Lordship must be aware, that the Porte cannot do anything to destroy it, unless the power of Mehemet Ali be brought under that of the Sultan.

I request your Lordship will bear in mind, that I did not examine or discuss the conditions the Porte proposed to establish for the Government of Egypt, but let them pass as being dependent, in many things, upon the question of tribute, and therefore destined to be carried into effect, or altered, as the measure of tribute should be determined.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

P.S.—It is out of my power to obtain an official copy of the conditions proposed by the Ottoman Minister to be imposed on Mehemet Ali, and I have therefore sent a report from memory.

Inclosure 1 in No. 163.

Observations addressed to the Conference by Lord Ponsonby.

THE deposition of Mehemet Ali, and the appeal to the Porte to reinstate him, afford proof that the Convention does not bind the Allies in their conduct

to Mehemet Ali, who, by his refusal of that Convention, destroyed all his right to its benefits. Whatever may be granted to Mehemet Ali since, is the result of the freewill of the Allies. The Convention, therefore, is not obligatory upon the Allies; in any case they are free to act as they please. My instructions say, that the means of protecting the people of Egypt, and of guarding the Sultan against the renewal of hostilities, &c., may be found in the stipulations of the 15th of July, without removing Mehemet Ali from his Pashalic. This clearly proves, that Lord Palmerston looks to the Treaty, as affording a source from whence may be drawn the means for effecting the purpose stated by him; but it is not a declaration by Lord Palmerston, that the Treaty is to be the absolute rule. If it is to be so, why is it deviated from in any particular?

If the Treaty be not the absolute rule, why are we to counsel the Sublime Porte to take a measure that was adopted in that Treaty, at a time when affairs were in a state totally different from their actual state? The Treaty was a compromise with Mehemet Ali, and all its stipulations were conditional, and with a view to engage him to accept it. Mehemet Ali decided to refuse the Treaty, and to try the chance of arms. He has been vanquished, and he has made unconditional submission to his Sovereign. How then can the Treaty be obligatory upon the Allies, (of whom the Sultan is one,) to take the measures framed for another position of affairs which has ceased to exist?

If then the Treaty be not obligatory upon the Allies, the counsel to be given by us to the Ottoman Porte is to be based upon the instructions we have received from our Courts; and we are not to advise the Porte to adopt measures that are impossible to be reconciled one with another, and contradictory, so as that one measure, if adopted, shall defeat almost every other measure which we are ordered to recommend.

Lord Palmerston's instructions to me of the 17th have been communicated *in extenso* to my Colleagues, and to the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs. They prescribe for me the conduct I am to pursue. They say, "Care must be taken to make such arrangements as will protect the people of Egypt from the tyrannical oppression by which they have of late years been crushed, and as shall secure the Sultan against a renewal of those hostilities which have compelled him to have recourse to the aid of his Allies." Lord Palmerston says, these arrangements may be found in the Treaty of the 15th of July. The Treaty says, that all the laws of the Turkish Empire, and all the Treaties of the Porte, shall apply to Egypt just as much as to any other province of the Sultan's dominions.

Lord Palmerston proceeds to particularize the application of the principle laid down, to the future character of the military and naval forces of the Empire, to the exercise of the Sultan's legislative authority in the settlement of other matters of the most important nature, and concludes with these words:—"The Treaty specifies, that none but the legal imposts shall be levied in Egypt, which will secure the people from undue exactions; and the execution of the Convention of 1838, by which all monopolies are to be abolished, will at once free the industry of the people of Egypt from those oppressive restrictions which have hitherto kept the great mass of the population in the most abject poverty, and which have gradually thrown out of cultivation extensive tracts of land that were formerly tilled and productive. By such means, it seems to Her Majesty's Government that future security might be afforded, both to the Sultan and to his Egyptian subjects, against the disposition of Mehemet Ali to rebel against his Sovereign, and to oppress the people of the province he would have to govern." The fundamental principle of Lord Palmerston's instructions is, the protection of the Sublime Porte from rebellion, and the people of Egypt from oppression, and particularly from exactions.

The measures which (as I am informed) the Ottoman Minister proposes to take for the future Government of Egypt, appear to me fully in conformity with the principle of Lord Palmerston's instructions, with the exception of one, namely, the measure of a tribute, and the consequent abandonment to Mehemet Ali of the collection of the revenues of Egypt, to be disposed of by him for the maintenance of the civil, military, and naval establishments of that province.

This measure is in contradiction to the declaration, that all the laws of the Empire shall be in force in Egypt; for the law of the Empire is, that the Pashas shall not collect the revenues, &c.; but if it be the pleasure of the Sultan, he can revoke that law, and thereby put an end to that contradiction,—

an act which I am not authorised to advise the Porte to do, and which, if done, would, as I think, open the way for an unceasing succession of mischiefs to the Sultan, and the destruction of the great ameliorations lately made, and by which the future welfare of the Ottoman people is to be secured. Why not repeal the Hatti-Sheriff of Gulhané?

The principle of Lord Palmerston's instruction is, protection for the Sultan, and for the people of Egypt, against Mehemet Ali. The success of the Sultan's arms has wrested from Mehemet Ali the actual power of the sword; a power which Mehemet Ali created for himself, by the abuse of the revenues of Egypt which were placed in his hands. It is proposed to replace them in his hands. The revenues of Egypt were raised to their vast amount by the exactions of Mehemet Ali. He is to be left the sole controller of the collection of the taxes, and, consequently, sole and absolute master of men, to whom taxation and exactions leave nothing beyond the mite that is absolutely necessary for their bare existence. He can inflict any punishment he pleases, to enforce payment even when payment is impossible, and he is the master of the persons as well as of the property of the Egyptians. Can this be in conformity with Lord Palmerston's instructions to protect the property of the people of Egypt? It is proposed to limit the number of troops to be kept up in Egypt, and that must lead to a diminution of the charges on the Pasha. I find in a report made by a scientific man, that in the year 1833 the revenues of Egypt amounted to 62,778,750 francs; the expenses to 49,951,500 francs.

The residue such a state of finance would leave in the hands of the Pasha, over and above all his expenses, would make him richer in money disposable for his personal objects, than almost any Sovereign in Europe, without calculating the enormous difference of the value of money in Egypt, compared with its value in Europe; but when the military and naval expenses of the Pasha are reduced, the surplus of the revenue he will enjoy will be largely augmented. Money is power, it more particularly is power in these countries; it has been the instrument by which Mehemet Ali raised himself to that height from whence it has cost so much labour and blood to remove him. Money is the only arm by which he can now be mischievous to the Sultan, and it is proposed to give it him in abundance; to supply Mehemet Ali with the means of being dangerous to the Sultan by extorting money from the wretched people of Egypt, who it is intended also to protect from exactions!

If the amount of tribute be increased, Mehemet Ali will be only stimulated to exact more from the people if that can be obtained by force or fraud, and an additional curse will fall upon Egypt. Will these things be guarded against by a vast diminution of the taxes in Egypt? How is it to be done, except with the concurrence of Mehemet Ali, and his true and loyal assistance in the execution of the measure? Does any body expect it?

The absolute control over the revenue of Egypt gives to Mehemet Ali the absolute disposal of rewards and punishments. It makes him the master of the persons and fortunes of all. How are the laws of the Empire to apply to Egypt, unless by and with his permission and assistance. How is the Hatti Sheriff of Gulhané to be enforced against the man who pays every body, from the judge to the lowest police officer, and who can at pleasure ruin the pecuniary resources of any man, or allow him to subsist or prosper?

The Treaties between the Sublime Porte and other Powers may be enforced by the fear Mehemet Ali may have of Foreign Nations, but the Sublime Porte will be powerless by the action of its own means to compel their observance. How are monopolies to be put down in Egypt? Are they to be perpetuated by a fraud?

These are only a portion of the consequences that will arise from leaving in the hands of Mehemet Ali that power which must necessarily belong to him if he is to collect the revenues of Egypt, and distribute them, as must be the case if the measure be adopted by the Sublime Porte of taking from Mehemet Ali a tribute in the way proposed.

It appears to me to be a measure in opposition to the declared end and object of my Government, as they are stated in Lord Palmerston's instruction of December 17. It appears to me, that it is not directed by the Convention of the 15th July; that it is not now necessary or expedient for the settlement of the affairs of this country; that it will confirm and perpetuate the misery of the people of Egypt, (being a permanent settlement;) that it will disgust the moral

sense of Europe; and that it is in direct contradiction to the honourable desires of the British Government as they are expressed in Lord Palmerston's instruction. I, therefore, have made this declaration of my opinions, and I decline to give my approbation to the measure, and to offer my advice to the Sublime Porte that such a measure should be adopted.

I have reason to believe my Colleagues entertain an opinion different from mine. They have had before them for their consideration the instructions from Lord Palmerston so often referred to. They are possibly better able to interpret them than I may be, but I understand them in the sense I have described; and it is for others, not for me, to decide, and to take such part as they may esteem the best. Those whom I have now addressed can judge, as well as I can do, what is the opinion of the British Government. My opinion is of little importance excepting to myself, but I must stand before my country and justify my acts.

Inclosure 2 in No. 163.

Conditions on which the Sublime Porte has proposed to grant the hereditary Tenure to Mehemet Ali Pasha.

HÉRÉDITÉ de l'Egypte accordée à condition que tous les Traités et toutes les lois de l'Empire s'appliqueront à l'Egypte comme à toute autre partie de l'Empire Ottoman.

Le Sultan reste maître de choisir parmi les descendans mâles de Méhémet Ali qui bon lui semblera. L'héritier choisi au Gouvernement de l'Egypte n'aura le titre de Vizir qu'après qu'il aura reçu l'investiture du Sultan, et c'est après cette investiture qu'il sera nommé Vizir et qu'il sera traité à l'instar de tous les autres Vizirs de l'Empire. Vu l'âge avancé de Méhémet Ali, il est dispensé de se rendre à la Capitale; ses successeurs y sont obligés.

La Porte ayant le projet d'améliorer son coin, la monnaie que Méhémet Ali pourrait frapper en Egypte devait avoir le même alliage et le même cours que celle du Sultan.

Toute nomination aux emplois civils et militaires doit venir du Sultan, et toute promotion émaner de Sa Hautesse; dès lors il est défendu à Méhémet Ali de nommer à aucun emploi, et de pourvoir à aucun office sans l'autorisation et le consentement de Sa Hautesse; pourtant, afin de lui laisser un pouvoir d'organisation militaire, il lui est accordé de nommer jusqu'au grade de Capitaine inclusivement.

Le tribut à payer annuellement sera fixé séparément.

Les marques distinctives (Nischan) de tout grade, tant civil que militaire, doivent être décrétées par Sa Hautesse.

Les uniformes, tant civils que militaires, doivent être pareils à ceux que les officiers civils et militaires du Sultan portent, le tout adapté au climat, bien entendu que la coupe et la forme doivent être absolument les mêmes.

Quant à la garnison pour le maintien du bon ordre en Egypte, la Porte propose vingt à vingt-cinq mille hommes de troupes.

La conscription, qui donne dans les autres provinces un sur cent hommes, ne pourra donner en Egypte qu'un sur deux cents hommes.

De tout tems le Gouvernement de l'Egypte a été chargé de pourvoir aux besoins des Villes Saintes; Méhémet Ali devra donc en sujet fidèle se conformer à tout ce que lui impose la place de Gouverneur de l'Egypte.

(Translation.)

HEREDITARY succession of Egypt granted on condition that all the Treaties and all the laws of the Empire shall be applied to Egypt as to every other part of the Ottoman Empire.

The Sultan reserves to himself to choose among the male descendants of Mehemet Ali whom he shall please. The heir chosen for the Government of Egypt shall not have the title of Vizier until he shall have received the

investiture of the Sultan, and after such investiture he shall be styled Vizier and treated like the other Viziers of the Empire. Considering the advanced age of Mehemet Ali, he is exempted from proceeding to the capital; his successors are under an obligation to do so.

As the Porte contemplates an improvement in its coinage, the money which Mehemet Ali may coin in Egypt should have the same alloy and value as that of the Sultan.

All appointments to civil and military employments must proceed from the Sultan, and all promotions emanate from His Highness; wherefore Mehemet Ali is prohibited from appointing to any employment, and making provision for any office without the authorisation and consent of His Highness; in order, however, to leave him means of military organisation, he is permitted to appoint up to the rank of captain inclusive.

The tribute to be paid yearly shall be fixed separately.

The distinctive marks (nischan) of every rank, as well civil as military, are to be ordained by His Highness.

The uniforms, as well civil as military, must resemble those worn by the civil and military officers of the Sultan, the whole adapted to the climate; it being well understood that the cut and shape must be absolutely the same.

With respect to the garrison for the maintenance of good order in Egypt, the Porte proposes from 20 to 25,000 troops.

The conscription which in the other provinces furnishes one man in a hundred, shall not in Egypt furnish more than 1 in 200.

The Government of Egypt has always been bound to provide for the wants of the Holy Cities; Mehemet Ali must therefore, as a faithful subject, act in conformity with what is imposed on him by the situation of Governor of Egypt.

No. 164.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received February* 28.)

My Lord, *Therapia, February* 5, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inclose translation of two letters from Mehemet Ali Pasha to his Highness the Grand Vizier.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 164.

Mehemet Ali to the Grand Vizier.

(Traduction.) *Le* 23 *Janvier*, 1841.

J'AI eu l'honneur de recevoir la lettre que Votre Altesse m'a écrite pour me faire savoir que lorsque la Sublime Porte aura appris d'une manière positive, ainsi que j'en ai pris l'engagement, que la Flotte Impériale a été envoyée sans aucun délai, avec tous les officiers, quelques individus connus exceptés, avec tous les équipages, toutes les munitions, et tous les agrés, après avoir été consignée au très-distingué Yaver Pacha, chargé de la recevoir, et que certains endroits connus ont été évacués et remis aux Agens de la Sublime Porte, Sa Majesté Impériale daignera me réintégrer dans le Gouvernement d'Egypte, ce qui est chose résolue, et que son Excellence Mazloum Bey, un des principaux Employés du Gouvernement Ottoman, a été chargé de me faire des communications essentielles sur ces points.

Je n'ai pas plutôt reçu la lettre de Votre Altesse, que, conformément à la volonté positive de Sa Hautesse, j'ai sans retard consigné la Flotte Impériale. J'ai aussi écrit à chacune des Autorités Egyptiennes de remettre aux Agens de la Sublime Porte les Lieux Saints, ainsi que leurs forts, avec toutes les munitions de guerre et de bouche qui s'y trouvaient, et de venir ici. Je leur ai expédié mes lettres par l'Honorable Haji Ahmed Aga, Capidji Bashi (Chambellan) de la

Cour Impériale, qui était venu ici en mission. J'ai mis de l'empressement à faire sortir la Flotte Impériale du Port d'Alexandrie en employant à cet effet des bateaux à vapeur, et dans l'espace de quelques jours on a pu, par la grâce de Dieu, faire partir les bâtimens l'un après l'autre.

J'ai appris aussi, par une lettre arrivée aujourd'hui de la part de mon fils Ibrahim Pacha, la nouvelle positive qu'il a abandonné toute la Syrie, et qu'il est venu jusqu'à Gaza. Votre Altesse verra donc qu'il n'est plus resté, grâce à Dieu, la moindre difficulté.

Par une lettre officielle arrivée plus tard à Mazloum Bey, j'apprends qu'au moment que la soumission que j'ai faite sera devenue un fait accompli, par la prompte restitution de la Flotte Impériale, et la remise, sans aucune délai, des lieux dont il s'agit aux Agens de la Sublime Porte, le Gouvernement héréditaire de l'Egypte me sera accordé. Or, voilà, que Dieu en soit loué, j'ai exécuté à la lettre toutes les conditions de la manière ci-dessus énoncée. Je prie donc Votre Altesse de représenter à Sa Majesté Impériale que je fais des vœux pour qu'il puisse régner longtems, et que j'attends l'accomplissement de sa promesse Souveraine. Votre Altesse aura rendu ainsi un nouveau service signalé à un ancien et fidèle ami.

(Translation.)

January 23, 1841.

I HAVE had the honour to receive the letter which your Highness wrote to me to inform me that when the Porte shall have positively learnt that the Imperial Fleet had, as I had undertaken should be the case, been sent without any delay, together with all the officers, some known persons excepted, the crews, the stores, and furniture, after having been delivered over to the most distinguished Yaver Pasha authorized to receive it, and that certain known places have been evacuated and delivered up to the agents of the Sublime Porte, His Imperial Majesty will be pleased to reinstate me in the Government of Egypt, which is a settled thing, and that his Excellency Mazloum Bey, one of the principal servants of the Ottoman Government, was directed to make to me essential communications on those points.

I no sooner received your Highness's letter, than, in conformity with the positive will of the Sultan, I without delay delivered up the Imperial Fleet. I wrote also to each of the Egyptian Authorities to deliver up to the agents of the Sublime Porte the Holy Places, as well as their forts, with all the stores and provisions therein, and to come here. I despatched my letters to them by the Honourable Hadgi Ahmed Aga, Capidgi Bashi (Chamberlain) of the Imperial Court, who had come here on a mission. I hastened the departure of the Imperial Fleet from the port of Alexandria, employing steam vessels for that purpose, and in the space of a few days, it was possible, by the grace of God, to despatch the vessels one after the other.

I have learnt also by a letter which came to-day from my son Ibrahim Pasha, positive news that he has abandoned the whole of Syria, and that he has arrived at Gaza. Your Highness then will see that, thanks to God, there has no longer remained the slightest difficulty.

By an official letter which afterwards arrived from Mazloum Bey, I learn that the moment that the submission which I have made shall have been effected, by the prompt restoration of the Imperial Fleet, and the delivery up, without any delay, to the agents of the Sublime Porte, of the places in question, the hereditary government of Egypt will be granted to me. Now then, God be praised for it, I have executed to the letter all the conditions in the manner mentioned above. I beg then your Highness to represent to His Imperial Majesty that I pray that he may reign for a length of time, and that I wait for the accomplishment of his sovereign promise. Your Highness will thus have rendered a new and signal service to an ancient and faithful friend.

Inclosure 2 in No. 164.

Mehemet Ali to the Grand Vizier.

(Traduction.) *Le* 23 *Janvier*, 1841.

SA Majesté Impériale ayant ordonné que Fevzi Ahmed Pacha, que son ex-Chiahaya Shériff Agi, et Osman Bey, fils de Shériff Aga et ex-Riala Bey (Contre-Amiral), ne soient pas envoyés à Constantinople, ils sont restés ici, occupés sans cesse à faire des vœux pour la conservation des jours et la prospérité de Sa Hautesse. Mais ils implorent la grâce qu'il leur soit permis de faire venir aussi leurs familles ici. Lorsque Votre Altesse aura su la nature de la faveur qu'ils demandent, et attendu que là et ici c'est tout un, étant les Etats du même Empire, et que s'ils sont séparés de leurs femmes et de leurs enfans, ils en auront le cœur navré, j'espère qu'elle voudra bien, par compassion pour eux, employer ses bons offices afin de leur procurer la permission de Sa Hautesse de faire venir leurs familles ici.

(Translation.)

January 23, 1841.

HIS Imperial Majesty having ordered that Fevzi Ahmed Pasha, his late Chiaya Sheriff Aga, and Osman Bey, son of Sheriff Aga and late Riala Bey (Rear Admiral), should not be sent to Constantinople, they have remained here incessantly employed in praying for the preservation of the life, and for the prosperity of the Sultan. But they implore the indulgence that they may be allowed also to bring their families here. When your Highness shall have become acquainted with the nature of the favour which they request, and considering that there and here is all one, the States belonging to the same Empire, and that if they are separated from their families and from their children, they will be very sorry for it, I hope that you will be pleased, out of compassion for them, to employ your good offices in order to obtain for them the Sultan's permission to bring their families here.

No. 165.

Viscount Palmerston to Colonel Hodges.

Sir, *Foreign Office, March* 2, 1841.

I HAVE to instruct you to return to Alexandria whenever the Austrian, Prussian, and Russian Consuls are ready to do so. As you all came away together, you ought to return thither together; and the sooner you return the better.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 166.

Sir John Barrow to Lord Leveson.

My Lord, *Admiralty, March* 3, 1841.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send herewith, for the information of Viscount Palmerston, copies of a letter and of its inclosures from Admiral the Honourable Sir Robert Stopford, containing details of the operations in Syria from the 25th of December to the 2nd of February.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN BARROW.

Inclosure in No. 166.

Admiral Stopford to R. More O'Ferrall, Esq.

"*Princess Charlotte,*" *at Malta,*
Sir, *February* 19, 1841.

BE pleased to acquaint their Lordships, that by despatches I have received from the commanding officers of the Allied forces in Syria, containing the details of the operations carried on between 25th of December and 2nd instant, it appears, that the plan laid down by General Jochmus, in command of the Turkish Army, was, to drive Ibrahim Pasha from Damascus, and to force him to retreat by the Desert, in place of marching by Gaza, notwithstanding which Ibrahim Pasha reached Gaza on the 31st ultimo, by a detour to the southward of the Dead Sea, on which some skirmishing had taken place. But, finally, on the 17th of January the orders arrived from Mehemet Ali for his son to retreat; and corresponding orders to the Allied forces, to grant every facility to that measure; when, after the necessary securities on both sides, a final and satisfactory arrangement was agreed upon, as will appear by Captain Houston Stewart of the "Benbow's" letter of the 2nd of February, of which I inclose a copy, reserving the more voluminous details for the packet, *viâ* Falmouth, for their Lordships' fuller information. It appears, that in leaving the "Benbow" in charge of the Commander at Beyrout, which he considered it necessary to do, Captain Stewart's presence at head-quarters was of essential service to the successful result of the winding up the contest in Syria.

As I cannot find words to convey the loss sustained by the lamented death of that brave and meritorious officer, Brigadier-General Michell, in more adequate terms than Captain Stewart has expressed in his letter of the 27th of January, I shall inclose a copy of that letter, giving me the melancholy intelligence of that event, which happened on the 24th ultimo, after only four days' illness, from exhaustion and over-exertion.

I beg to add, that, by letters from Rear-Admiral Sir John Ommaney of the 7th and 10th instant, the Turkish fleet made an attempt to get out of Marmorice with Admiral Walker, but, the wind failing, they were obliged to re-anchor, and still remain awaiting a wind to proceed to Constantinople.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) ROBERT STOPFORD,
Admiral.

Sub-Inclosure 1 in No. 166.

Captain Houston Stewart to Admiral Stopford.

Sir, *Gaza, January* 27, 1841.

IT is with deep sorrow that I announce to you the death of Brigadier-General Michell, which took place at Jaffa on the 24th instant. Soon after his return there, on the 16th instant, from the advance of General Jochmus with the Turkish troops, General Michell complained of fever and ague, accompanied by great bodily pains, the consequence of numerous severe wounds received in former campaigns. He went to bed on the 19th in the afternoon; but, as the fever was speedily subdued, no danger was apprehended until about 7, A.M., on Sunday the 24th, and at noon his gallant, amiable spirit quitted its earthly tenement.

For the last five weeks we have been constantly together, and it is not easy to conceive a more cordial union between two officers of different services, than that which it was my good fortune to enjoy with General Michell. I shall ever lament him as one of the best-informed, most straightforward, and excellent of men; and if I, who have known him for so short a time, experience so much grief for his loss, what must be the feelings of those who have been his friends and admirers for years!

I have the melancholy satisfaction to know, that I was of some use and

comfort to my late gallant friend to the very last: and I am glad to be on shore on this coast at a time when it requires the utmost exertion of British firmness and vigilance, to prevent any unhappy collision which might occur from the mutual mistrust which subsists between the Turks and Egyptians.

Colonel Bridgeman succeeds to the command of our forces, and in him, I feel confident, Her Majesty's service will find an honourable and able director.

I was obliged to leave Jaffa for this place at 3, A.M., on Monday the 25th; but I have since heard, that every military and personal mark of honour and respect was evinced at Brigadier-General Michell's funeral there on the 26th instant.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) HOUSTON STEWART,
Captain.

Sub-Inclosure 2 in No. 166.

Captain Houston Stewart to Admiral Stopford.

Her Majesty's Ship "Vesuvius,"
Sir, *off Jaffa, February* 2, 1841.

AS the "Dido" is getting short of provisions and the weather unsettled, I send her off at once, without waiting for communication with the shore here, which the surf will scarcely yet admit of. I embarked on board the vessel at Gaza yesterday evening with considerable difficulty. As it is my intention to despatch the "Vesuvius" this evening, calling at Acre and Beyrout, I shall send all despatches by her, and merely state to you in a hurried manner, that I left Ibrahim Pasha at Gaza. He arrived there on Sunday afternoon, when he immediately gave me an audience; and yesterday he gave a letter of assurance for the Seraskier, that he meant to comply with his father's orders by immediately evacuating Syria, which I have not the least doubt he will perform; but it will require a little time, unless the wind gets to the eastward, as there have been three transports with biscuits for the troops, (and intended to embark the women, sick, and wounded,) off Gaza for six days without having been able to land anything yet from the great surf on the beach.

Six Regiments of Cavalry and 2,000 Infantry marched last week to El-Arish *en route* to Egypt. In consequence of the scantiness of the wells in the desert, it becomes necessary to regulate the march in small successive columns. Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson, R.E., and Lieutenant Loring, R.N., of Her Majesty's ship "Carysfort," are now at Gaza, with directions to superintend and report upon the progress of the evacuation; and I entertain the hope, that within a fortnight from this date, there will not be an armed Egyptian in Syria.

I hope that Colonel Bridgeman, who is now in command of the forces, in consequence of the lamented death of Brigadier-General Michell, will, so soon as I can communicate with him, consent to allow the Marines to leave Acre, in which case I should direct the "Vesuvius" to take as many as she can conveniently accommodate, and the "Magicienne" to embark the rest: there will still remain the Marine Artillery at Sidon, and the "Hazard" is not able to take them with their guns, but the next vessel may. The "Stromboli" returned to Alexandria last night, not having sufficient coals or water to enable her to remain off here; and I expect the "Hecate" back from Alexandria (whither I sent her on the 25th instant, to communicate with Commodore Sir Charles Napier, on the subject of the Syrian conscripts at present in the Egyptian ranks, and to get coals) immediately. Head-quarters here ought not to be left without a steamer, as the only vessel which may safely keep the coast at this season of the year.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) HOUSTON STEWART,
Captain.

P.S.—Ibrahim Pasha sent nearly all his guns, women, and children back to Egypt by Suez, under Solyman Pasha's command, with from 3,000 to 4,000 men. There cannot be less than 18,000 fighting men now at Gaza; the Cavalry and horses in excellent condition, and always a large number of Irregular Cavalry.

No. 167.

Viscount Palmerston to Chekib Effendi.

Foreign Office, March 4, 1841.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acquaint Chekib Effendi, &c., that Admiral Sir Robert Stopford, in a despatch dated the 26th of January, has communicated to Her Majesty's Government intelligence that the Turkish fleet arrived at Marmorice from Alexandria on the 24th and 25th of January, on its way to the Dardanelles; and that Solyman Pasha, commanding the advanced guard of Ibrahim Pasha's army, had arrived at Suez; which place he probably reached on the 22nd of January.

In a further despatch, dated the 19th of February, Sir Robert Stopford states that Ibrahim Pasha had himself arrived at Gaza on the 31st of January, on his way to Egypt.

The Undersigned, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 168.

PROTOCOLE de la Conférence tenue au Foreign Office le 5 *Mars,* 1841.

Présens:

Les Plénipotentiaires
d'Autriche;
de la Grande Bretagne;
de Prusse;
de Russie; et
de la Porte Ottomane.

LES Plénipotentiaires des Cours d'Autriche, de la Grande Bretagne, de Prusse, de Russie, et de la Sublime Porte Ottomane, se sont réunis pour prendre en considération les rapports reçus de Constantinople jusqu'à la date du 4 Février, ainsi que les communications échangées entre les Représentans des Quatre Cours Alliées et le Ministère de la Sublime Porte.

Il résulte de l'ensemble de ces renseignemens:

1. Que Méhémet Ali a fait acte de soumission absolu envers son Souverain, et a sollicité son pardon.

2. Que pour preuve de sa soumission, il a restitué la flotte Ottomane, laquelle, après avoir été duement remise entre les mains des Commissaires nommés par Sa Hautesse, a déjà quitté le port d'Alexandrie, et est entrée dans la Baie de Marmorizza.

3. Que la Syrie toute entière se trouve évacuée par les troupes Egyptiennes.

4. Que l'autorité du Sultan se trouve légalement rétablie et en Syrie et dans l'Ile de Candie.

5. Que Sa Hautesse le Sultan a daigné accepter la soumission de Méhémet Ali, en accordant amnistie pleine et entière à lui, à ses enfans, et à ses adhérens.

6. Que déférant aux avis de ses Alliés, Sa Hautesse a daigné annoncer en même tems l'intention de réintégrer Méhémet Ali dans les fonctions de Pacha d'Egypte, avec hérédité pour ses descendans.

Les conditions établies par l'instruction arrêtée à Londres le 15 Octobre, et par le Mémorandum du 14 Novembre, se trouvent ainsi remplies: le Pacha d'Egypte s'est soumis; il a restitué la flotte—évacué le district d'Adana, la Syrie, l'Ile de Candie—donné les ordres nécessaires pour restituer les Villes Saintes;—finalement, il a obtenu son pardon après être rentré dans l'obéissance et le devoir.

En même tems, l'attente que la Note Collective, adressée à Chékib Effendi en date du 30 Janvier, avait énoncée, s'est déjà réalisée. Les conseils donnés par les Représentans des Quatre Cours ont été accueillis par le Sultan avec cette confiance que les sentimens d'amitié et la coopération efficace de ses Alliés avaient

été faits pour lui inspirer. En conséquence, Sa Hautesse a fait manifester sa détermination de faire émaner un firman par lequel l'investiture héréditaire du Pachalic d'Egypte serait accordée à Méhémet Ali sur la base des conditions posées par l'Acte Séparé annexé à la Convention du 15 Juillet; et ce firman devait être communiqué à l'Ambassadeur Ottoman à Londres, pour être porté à la connaissance des Représentans des Quatre Cours, après qu'il aura été revêtu de la sanction de Sa Hautesse.

Dans cet état des choses, considérant que les circonstances qui ont motivé le départ d'Alexandrie des Consuls des Quatre Puissances ont cessé d'exister,—les Plénipotentiaires des Cours Alliées ont jugé que le moment était arrivé où ces Agens devraient retourner à leur poste. Les Représentans des Quatre Cours à Constantinople s'entendront à cet effet avec la Sublime Porte pour fixer le moment où ces Agens se rendront simultanément à Alexandrie.

(Signé) ESTERHAZY. NEUMANN.
PALMERSTON.
BULOW.
BRUNNOW.
CHEKIB.

(Translation.)

Protocol of the Conference held at the Foreign Office, the 5th of March, 1841.

Present:
the Plenipotentiaries
of Austria;
of Great Britain;
of Prussia;
of Russia; and
of the Ottoman Porte.

THE Plenipotentiaries of the Courts of Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, Russia, and the Sublime Porte, assembled to take into consideration the reports received from Constantinople up to the date of the 4th of February, as well as the communications which had passed between the Representatives of the Four Allied Courts and the Ministry of the Sublime Porte.

It results from the whole of this intelligence:

1. That Mehemet Ali has absolutely submitted to his Sovereign, and has solicited his pardon.

2. That in proof of his submission, he has restored the Ottoman fleet, which, after having been duly delivered over to Commissioners named by His Highness, has already left the harbour of Alexandria and entered the Bay of Marmorice.

3. That the whole of Syria is evacuated by the Egyptian troops.

4. That the authority of the Sultan is lawfully re-established both in Syria and in the Island of Candia.

5. That His Highness the Sultan has been pleased to accept the submission of Mehemet Ali, granting full and entire amnesty to him, his children, and his adherents.

6. That yielding to the advice of his Allies, His Highness has been pleased at the same time to announce his intention of reinstating Mehemet Ali in his functions of Pasha of Egypt, with hereditary succession for his descendants.

The conditions laid down by the instruction settled in London on the 15th of October, and by the Memorandum of the 14th of November, are thus fulfilled;—the Pasha of Egypt has made his submission; he has restored the fleet,—evacuated the district of Adana, Syria, the Island of Candia,—has given the necessary orders for the restoration of the Holy Cities;—finally, he has obtained his pardon after having returned to obedience and to duty.

At the same time, the expectation expressed in the Collective Note addressed to Chekib Effendi on the 30th of January is already realized. The advice given by the Representatives of the Four Courts has been received by the Sultan with that confidence which the sentiments of friendship and the efficacious co-operation of his Allies were calculated to inspire him with. His

Highness has, in consequence, made public his determination to issue a firman by which the hereditary investiture of the Pashalic of Egypt should be granted to Mehemet Ali on the basis of the conditions laid down in the Separate Act annexed to the Convention of the 15th of July; and this firman was to be communicated to the Ottoman Ambassador in London, to be made known to the Representatives of the Four Courts, after it shall have received the sanction of His Highness.

In this state of things, considering that the circumstances which led to the departure of the Consuls of the Four Powers from Alexandria have ceased to exist, the Plenipotentiaries of the Allied Courts have considered that the moment was arrived when those Agents should return to their post. The Representatives of the Four Courts at Constantinople will, for this purpose, come to an understanding with the Sublime Porte in order to fix the time at which these Agents shall proceed together to Alexandria.

(Signed) ESTERHAZY. NEUMANN.
PALMERSTON.
BULOW.
BRUNNOW.
CHEKIB.

No. 169.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 7.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, February* 9, 1841.

WE learn the fact that Mehemet Ali has granted to the Admiral Ahmed Fevzi Pasha, who delivered up to him the Sultan's Fleet, an annual appointment of 60,000 dollars, and has made him a present of an estate in the Delta worth 30,000 dollars, and also of the best house in Cairo with four gardens.

Mehemet Ali has given rewards also to the other officers who aided in delivering up the Ottoman Fleet to Mehemet Ali.

No. 170.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 7.)

My Lord, *Therapia, February* 9, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith for your Lordship's information, translation of an article which has been published in the Turkish Gazette, called the "Moniteur Ottoman."

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure in No. 170.

Publication de l'Hérédité accordée à Méhémet Ali, et de la Solution de la Question Turco-Egyptienne.

(Traduction.) 12 Zilhadgé, 1256. / 4 Février, 1841.

AINSI qu'il a été annoncé par la Gazette Numéro 216, Son Altesse Méhémet Ali Pacha a offert sa soumission à Sa Majesté Impériale; et son Excellence Mazloum Bey, un des principaux Employés du Gouvernement Ottoman, et Membre du Conseil de Justice, a été envoyé à Alexandrie sur un bateau à vapeur tout exprès, pour lui annoncer la bonne nouvelle que si, par suite des faveurs signalées dont il a été jusqu'ici l'objet de la part de Sa Hautesse, il prouve sa soumission par des faits, il sera réintégré dans le Gouvernement de l'Egypte. On a envoyé avec Mazloum Bey le très-distingué Yaver Pacha, qui avait été chargé de la commission de recevoir la flotte Impériale. Tout cela a

été porté à la connaissance de Méhémet Ali Pacha par une dépêche que Son Altesse le Grand Vizir lui a écrite.

Par le retour de Mazloum Bey, la Sublime Porte a appris, que le lendemain de l'arrivée des Commissaires à Alexandrie, Méhémet Ali, pour preuve de la réalité de sa soumission, et d'après l'engagement qu'il en avait pris, leur a remis tout de suite la flotte Impériale ; qu'il a expédié les ordres écrits nécessaires pour la remise des Lieux Saints aux Agens de la Sublime Porte ; qu'il a mis tous ses soins à faire sortir la flotte Impériale du Port d'Alexandrie dans le terme promis ; et qu'Ibrahim Pacha s'est tout-à-fait retiré de la Syrie.

Comme, d'ailleurs, dans sa réponse, Méhémet Ali a donné de nouvelles assurances de sa soumission et de son dévouement au Sultan, le tems de l'accomplissement de la Promesse Royale est arrivé ; et sa prompte obéissance aux ordres Souverains a été fort agréable à Sa Hautesse, dont le Très-Haut veuille conserver les jours et augmenter la prospérité et la gloire!

Mue par cette bonté et cette sollicitude paternelle qui la caractérisent, Sa Hautesse, qui a toujours comblé de faveurs les serviteurs de la Sublime Porte, veut bien considérer les derniers événemens comme s'ils n'ont jamais eu lieu ; et non seulement elle a daigné pardonner à Méhémet Ali, à ses fils, à ses parens, et à tous ses employés, mais voulant aussi user de clémence envers Méhémet Ali, et envers ses fils, elle a accordé à Son Altesse le Gouvernement d'Egypte héréditairement. Mais attendu qu'il faut naturellement qu'un semblable privilège d'hérédité soit assujetti à quelques conditions nécessaires, et que la Sublime Porte veut que les Egyptiens, qui sont du nombre de ses sujets tout comme leur Gouverneur est du nombre de ses serviteurs, jouissent, dans toutes les circonstances, de repos et de tranquillité, il est de la dignité de Sa Majesté Impériale de poser, à leur égard aussi, quelques principes modérés.

En conséquence, la Sublime Porte a résolu de fixer les conditions nécessaires de l'hérédité, et de faire quelques arrangemens qui en sont les suites et les développemens.

On s'occupe donc d'un firman qui renfermera les conditions dont il s'agit, et qui sera expédié, s'il plait à Dieu, dans quelques jours d'ici par un Commissaire *ad hoc*.

Dieu en soit loué ! la question Egyptienne est donc terminée de la manière qu'on vient de le voir.

Quant à la flotte Impériale, elle a été conduite au Port de Marmorice, où elle se trouve maintenant. Elle est sur le point d'accomplir sa quarantaine, et elle viendra ici par le premier vent favorable.

Remplissons un devoir imposé à nous tous,—celui de bénir sans cesse le nom de notre Souverain.

Cette affaire avait causé une certaine inquiétude dans les esprits ; mais enfin elle est heureusement terminée, et c'est ce que nous portons à la connaissance du public.

(Translation.)

Publication of the Hereditary Right granted to Mehemet Ali, and of the Solution of the Turco-Egyptian Question.

12 Zilhadgé, 1256.
4 February, 1841.

AS it was announced by the Gazette, No. 216, his Highness Mehemet Ali Pasha has offered his submission to His Imperial Majesty; and his Excellency Mazloum Bey, one of the principal servants of the Ottoman Government, and member of the Council of Justice, has been sent express to Alexandria in a steam-vessel to announce to him the good news, that if, in consequence of the signal favours on the part of the Sultan of which he has hitherto been the object, he gives proof of his submission by facts, he shall be reinstated in the government of Egypt. The most distinguished Yaver Pasha, who had been commissioned to receive the Imperial fleet, has been sent with Mazloum Bey. All this has been communicated to Mehemet Ali Pasha by a despatch which the Grand Vizier has written to him.

The Sublime Porte has learnt by the return of Mazloum Bey, that the day after the arrival of the Commissioners at Alexandria, Mehemet Ali, as a proof of the reality of his submission and in conformity with the engagement which he

had made, immediately delivered over to them the Imperial fleet; despatched the necessary written orders for the delivery up of the Holy Places to the Agents of the Sublime Porte; exerted himself to the utmost to enable the Imperial fleet to go out of the harbour of Alexandria within the promised time; and that Ibrahim Pasha has altogether retired from Syria.

As, moreover, Mehemet Ali, in his answer, has given fresh assurances of his submission and of his devotion to the Sultan, the time for the accomplishment of the Royal promise has arrived; and his ready obedience to his Sovereign's orders has been very agreeable to the Sultan, whose days may the Most High be pleased to preserve, and to augment his prosperity and glory!

Moved by that goodness and that paternal solicitude by which he is distinguished, the Sultan who has always loaded with favours the servants of the Sublime Porte, is pleased to consider the recent events as having never taken place, and has not only condescended to pardon Mehemet Ali, his children, relatives, and all his servants, but being desirous also of manifesting his clemency towards Mehemet Ali, and towards his children, he has granted to his Highness the government of Egypt hereditarily. But seeing that it is naturally requisite that such a privilege of hereditary succession should be subject to some necessary conditions, and that the Sublime Porte desires that the Egyptians, who are among the number of its subjects, in the same manner as their Governor is among the number of its servants, should enjoy under all circumstances repose and tranquillity, it consists with the dignity of His Imperial Majesty to lay down, with regard to them also, some moderate principles.

In consequence, the Sublime Porte has decided upon fixing the conditions necessary for the hereditary succession, and to make certain arrangements which are the consequence and explanation thereof.

A firman is therefore in preparation which will comprehend the conditions in question, and which, God willing, will be despatched from hence in a few days by a special Commissioner.

The Egyptian Question is then, God be praised, ended in the manner which has been seen.

As for the Imperial fleet it has been brought to the harbour of Marmorice, where it now is. It is on the point of completing its quarantine, and it will come here with the first favourable wind.

Let us fulfil a duty imposed upon us all, that of incessantly blessing the name of our Sovereign.

This matter had caused some uneasiness in the minds of men; but at length it is happily brought to a conclusion, and that is what is communicated to the public.

No. 171.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 10.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, February* 14, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inclose translation of,

1. A firman, granting to Mehemet Ali the hereditary Government of Egypt, and setting forth the conditions the Sublime Porte attaches to the grant;

2. A firman, conferring upon Mehemet Ali the government of the provinces bordering upon Egypt;

3. An Official Note addressed by the Sublime Porte to the Representatives of the Four Powers;

4. A letter from the Grand Vizier to Mehemet Ali.

At six o'clock yesterday evening, I received a report from the Dragoman, stating, that he had received the above-mentioned papers from Rechid Pasha, and that they should be translated and sent to me as quickly as possible. He further informed me, that the originals of the firmans and the letter would be despatched this day at noon, in a steamer for Alexandria, and that the Consuls might profit of the occasion to return to Alexandria.

I inclose the Dragoman's report.

I received on the 9th instant a message from Rechid Pasha, as follows:—"I am preparing a firman which will contain the conditions. I have a plan, which appears to me excellent for conciliating the opinions of the three Representatives with that of Lord Ponsonby, with respect to the tribute; I intend to communicate the project of the firman confidentially to Lord Ponsonby."

The Dragoman continues:—"Rechid has not told me what he has found, or believes he has found, to conciliate the above opinions. Rechid has told me that when the firman shall be definitively settled, he will invite the Representatives to a Conference and communicate the firman to them, after which he will ask them this question:—'If Mehemet Ali does not accept these conditions, what do you intend to do?'"

What I have stated above will show, that it has not been in my power to take any part in this measure, which has been concealed from me. Considering the relations between the British Government and the Sublime Porte, it appears to me, that the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs ought to have made Her Majesty's Ambassador acquainted with the measures taken by the Porte in this serious affair, before they were actually carried into execution.

I have replied to the Ottoman Minister's offer to allow the British Consul-General to go to Alexandria by the steamer, that I did not intend to require the Consul-General to go there. I have to request your Lordship's instructions on the above-mentioned point.

The situation of Egypt will be essentially changed in relation to Her Majesty's Government, if Mehemet Ali accept the terms declared in the firman, and Syria is separated from Egypt. It may not suit Her Majesty's Government to re-establish the British Consul in Egypt on the same footing he lately stood on. Mehemet Ali may refuse the conditions; and, lastly, it is impossible, I presume, for Colonel Hodges to leave this at so short a warning.

Inclosure 1 in No. 171.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 172.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 171.

[See Inclosure 3 in No. 172.]

Inclosure 3 in No. 171.

[See Inclosure 5 in No. 172.]

Inclosure 4 in No. 171.

[See Inclosure 4 in No. 172.]

Inclosure 5 in No. 171.

M. Frederic Pisani to Viscount Ponsonby.

Péra, ce 15 *Février*, 1841,
à 2 *h.* P.M.

My Lord,

JE viens de Réchid Pacha. Il m'a remis quatre pièces: 1° Le firman accordant l'hérédité avec les conditions; 2°. Le firman conférant à Méhémet Ali les autres provinces confinantes avec l'Egypte; 3°. Une Note Officielle (en Turc) adressée aux Quatre Représentans; 4°. Une lettre du Grand Vizir à Méhémet Ali. Les originaux partiront demain pour Alexandrie. C'est Saïd Muhib Effendi, le Ministre de la Justice, qui en sera le porteur. Réchid Pacha fait savoir à votre Excellence que les Consuls qui voudraient profiter de cette occasion pour retourner à Alexandrie, pourront le faire. Le pyroscaphe partira dans l'après-midi sans faute.

Je vais commencer la traduction des quatre pièces, et je vous enverrai une partie de mon travail à mesure que j'avance.

Je suis, &c.,
(Signé) FREDERIC PISANI.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Pera, February 15, 1841, 2 P.M.

I HAVE just come from Rechid Pasha. He delivered four papers to me: 1°. The firman granting the hereditary succession with the conditions; 2°. The firman conferring on Mehemet Ali the other provinces bordering upon Egypt; 3°. An Official Note (in Turkish) addressed to the Four Representatives; 4°. A Letter from the Grand Vizier to Mehemet Ali. The originals will go to-morrow to Alexandria. Saïd Muhib Effendi, the Minister of Justice, will be the bearer of them. Rechid Pasha acquaints your Excellency that the Consuls who might wish to profit by this opportunity to return to Alexandria, may do so. The steamboat will take its departure in the afternoon without fail.

I am going to begin the translation of the four papers, and I will send you parts of my work as I proceed with it.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) FREDERIC PISANI.

No. 172.

Chekib Effendi to Viscount Palmerston.

11 *Mars*, 1841.

LE Soussigné, Ambassadeur de la Sublime Porte, a l'honneur d'informer son Excellence Lord Palmerston, qu'en conséquence des preuves que Méhémet Ali a données de sa soumission, Sa Hautesse vient d'accomplir gracieusement sa promesse, en le réintégrant sous certaines conditions au poste du Gouvernement héréditaire de l'Egypte, et en lui confiant l'administration de Nubie, Darfour, Cordofan, et Senaar; que Muhib Effendi, Ministre de la Justice, était parti pour Alexandrie, chargé, 1°. des deux firmans concernant l'investiture de Méhémet Ali Pacha des Gouvernemens des susdites provinces; 2°. d'une Ordonnance relative aux arriérés des tributs; 3°. d'une lettre du Grand Vizir à l'adresse du Pacha d'Egypte.

Sur l'autorisation de son Gouvernement, le Soussigné s'empresse de remettre à son Excellence Lord Palmerston les copies des dites pièces ainsi que celles des deux actes adressées par la Sublime Porte aux Représentans à Constantinople des Cours Alliées et Amies. Il prie, en même tems, son Excellence de porter ces copies à la connaissance des

autres Plénipotentiaires des Puissances Alliées à Londres, et de vouloir bien lui donner une réponse au sujet de la communication officielle.

Le Soussigné prie aussi son Excellence Lord Palmerston d'agréer l'assurance de sa haute considération.

(Signé) CHEKIB.

(Translation.)

March 11, 1841.

THE Undersigned, Ambassador from the Sublime Porte, has the honour to inform his Excellency Viscount Palmerston, that, in consequence of the proofs which Mehemet Ali has given of his submission, His Highness has graciously fulfilled his promise, by reinstating him upon certain conditions in the post of the hereditary government of Egypt, and by confiding to him the administration of Nubia, Darfour, Cordufan, and Sennaar; that Muhib Effendi, Minister of Justice, had gone to Alexandria charged, 1°., with the two firmans concerning the investiture of Mehemet Ali Pasha in the government of the above-mentioned Provinces; 2°., with an ordinance relative to the arrears of tribute; 3°., with a letter from the Grand Vizier to the address of the Pasha of Egypt.

By authority from his Government, the Undersigned hastens to transmit to his Excellency Lord Palmerston copies of the documents in question as well as of the two notes addressed by the Sublime Porte to the Representatives of the allied and friendly Courts at Constantinople. At the same time he requests his Excellency to communicate these copies to the other Plenipotentiaries of the Allied Powers in London, and to have the goodness to give him an answer upon the subject of the official communication.

The Undersigned also requests his Excellency Lord Palmerston to accept the assurance of his high consideration.

(Signed) CHEKIB.

Inclosure 1 in No. 172.

Instructions given to his Excellency Said Muhib Effendi, on a Mission to Egypt, by order of His Highness the Sultan.

(Traduction.)

SAID MUHIB EFFENDI se rendra directement à Alexandrie sur le bateau à vapeur Impériale qui a été mis à sa disposition.

Il remettra à son Excellence Méhémet Ali Pacha, le firman relatif à l'hérédité de l'Egypte; celui concernant la concession des Provinces de Soudan et contenant quelques autres ordres; enfin, la lettre de Son Altesse le Grand Vizir. Il lui représentera en termes convenables que ces contestations et démêlés qui existaient depuis quelque tems étant entièrement écartés, il n'y aura plus désormais aucune espèce de division ou de dissentiment, et qu'il faudra travailler en parfaite union pour le bien de la religion, du Gouvernement, du pays, et de la nation. Il est naturellement nécessaire que les dits firmans soient lus officiellement en plein Divan, et rendus aussi public. Si Méhémet Ali Pacha exécute cette mesure spontanément, cela sera fort bien. Dans le cas contraire, le dit Effendi devra l'y exhorter en lui faisant les représentations nécessaires.

Il a été remis au dit Effendi le Nichan et le Fess, distinctifs des Vizirs, destinés pour son Excellence Méhémet Ali Pacha, et il sera nécessaire que ce dernier les mette le jour de la lecture du firman.

Dans le cas cependant où il ne se montrerait pas disposé à le faire, le dit Effendi devra l'y exhorter.

Dans le firman relatif à l'hérédité, il est dit et établi comme condition, que dorénavant les Gouverneurs de l'Egypte auront à se rendre en personne à Constantinople pour recevoir l'investiture. Toutefois Sa Hautesse ayant égard à l'âge avancé de Méhémet Ali Pacha, et mue par un sentiment d'humanité et de compassion, ne consent pas à ce qu'il s'expose aux fatigues d'une pareil voyage.

En annonçant ceci à Méhémet Ali Pacha, on devra ajouter, dans les termes convenables, que Sa Hautesse verrait avec satisfaction qu'il envoyât ici un de ses fils pour la remercier de l'insigne faveur dont il vient d'être l'objet.

Méhémet Ali Pacha devra accepter et exécuter immédiatement et sans objection toutes les conditions du firman relatives à l'hérédité ainsi que toutes les dispositions contenues dans notre firman Impérial.

Si toutefois, contre notre attente, il devait être heurté par quelques unes des dites conditions, et qu'il montrât de l'hésitation, le dit Effendi lui représentera, en termes persuasifs, que ces résolutions de Sa Hautesse sont définitives, qu'aucune d'entre elles ne saurait être changée ou modifiée, et qu'aussi les Augustes Cours Alliées ne donneraient pas leur assentiment.

Si le Pacha ne se laisse pas convaincre, et qu'il persiste dans son opinion, on tâchera de le faire entrer dans la bonne voie, en lui exposant qu'il est de son intérêt de terminer, sans provoquer de nouveau l'emploi des mesures coërcitives; que si on était forcé de recourir encore une fois à la guerre, il serait seul responsable du sang humain qui y serait versé; enfin, que la non-acceptation d'une des conditions établies portera atteinte à l'hérédité qu'on vient de lui accorder comme une insigne faveur.

Arrivé à Alexandrie, le dit Effendi comprendra dans la première ou dans la seconde entrevue quelle est la marche que compte suivre Méhémet Ali.

Si, après cinq ou six jours, sa mission se trouve terminée à souhait, il aura à s'en retourner aussitôt à Constantinople.

Si, au contraire, l'affaire lui paraissait exiger encore de longues discussions, et qu'il fût obligé de rester à Alexandrie quinze ou vingt jours, alors, comme il faut que nous connaissions ici la marche que Méhémet Ali suivra dans le principe, et le langage qu'il tiendra, le dit Effendi pourra renvoyer ici le bateau à vapeur Impérial avec un rapport contenant les notions qu'il aura recueillies en quelques jours dans ses entrevues avec Méhémet Ali Pacha. Dans le cas, enfin, que Méhémet Ali ne prit en aucune considération les ouvertures du Délégué de la Sublime Porte, et qu'il rejetât entièrement les conditions qu'on lui offre, alors, comme il faudra de nouveau concerter cette affaire avec les Cours Alliées, le dit Effendi devra exposer au Pacha la nécessité de lui donner par écrit son refus d'accepter les conditions en question. Il lui fera donc écrire clairement tout ce qu'il aura à dire, et soumettra cette pièce à la Sublime Porte, dont il devra attendre la réponse.

Le dit Effendi étant porteur de notre firman Impérial relatif aux arriérés des tributs de l'Egypte et de l'île de Candie et de la Syrie, il est évident que Méhémet Ali Pacha ne pourra rien objecter, mais qu'il devra payer en entier le tribut de l'Egypte et de Candie jusqu'à la fin de l'année courant, et celui de la Syrie jusqu'à la fin de l'année 1255 (4 Mars, 1840). Cependant, si Méhémet Ali avait l'intention de garder ces arrérages à compte des frais que lui a occasionnés le séjour de la flotte Impériale à Alexandrie, on lui fera observer que le voyage et le séjour de cette flotte en Egypte ayant eu lieu contre la volonté du Sultan, la Sublime Porte ne doit pas supporter les frais que cela a occasionné; que cela serait d'ailleurs contraire au Traité conclu entre les Augustes Cours, puisqu'il est stipulé qu'on ne demandera aucune espèce de frais pour l'entretien de la flotte en question; que, par conséquent, on ne pouvait pas permettre que les arriérés du tribut fussent retenus par un pareil motif, et qu'il fallait que Méhémet Ali les acquittât sans délai, et réglât ainsi ce point d'une manière définitive.

Si le Pacha alléguait, qu'à cause de la guerre il s'est trouvé dans l'impossibilité de prélever en entier les impôts de la Syrie, et qu'il propose de ne pas confondre ce point avec les autres arriérés, mais de les régler séparément, on lui répondra qu'en effet la Sublime Porte devra recevoir de lui tout ce qu'il lui a été possible de prélever en Syrie dans la dite année, sauf à percevoir en suite le reste sur les lieux mêmes d'après les documens authentiques que devra lui fournir le Pacha. Dans le cas, enfin, où il serait de toute impossibilité d'arranger à Alexandrie l'affaire du tribut de la Syrie pour la présente année 1256, on établira que Méhémet Ali

Pacha enverra ici un Commissaire *ad hoc*, avec lequel ce point sera réglé dans les voies financières.

Quant au passage du dit firman d'hérédité où il est question du contrôle, en voici le sens et le but. Comme le quart des revenus de l'Egypte doit revenir à la Sublime Porte, et que les impôts à payer par les habitans de l'Egypte doivent être conformes aux nouvelles lois de l'Empire, il faut que l'on connaisse ici exactement le chiffre des revenus effectifs de l'Egypte, ainsi que la manière dont y sont traités les habitans, et c'est à cet effet que la Sublime Porte veut y envoyer un employé qui devra y résider. Cet employé ne prendra aucune ingérence directe dans les perceptions des impôts, ni dans les dépenses; sa mission se bornera à constater les faits, et à recevoir les sommes qui reviennent à la Sublime Porte. Il n'y a donc rien dans tout ceci qui doive donner de l'ombrage à Méhémet Ali. Mais, quand même il hésiterait à y consentir, on devra lui faire observer qu'on ne saurait changer ce point arrêté d'une manière définitive. On ajoutera en termes convenables, qu'après avoir concerté la chose avec lui, la Sublime Porte enverra en Egypte un employé, à qui (puisqu'il sera chargé de recevoir les sommes qui reviennent au Sultan) il sera convenable de donner le titre de Tefterdar.

Dans une des lettres de Méhémet Ali Pacha arrivées ici par Mazloum Bey, il a demandé que puisque le transfuge Ahmed Pacha, ainsi que Chérif Aga et Osman Bey, doivent être restés en Egypte, on y envoyât aussi leurs familles; on n'entend pas rejeter cette demande. Mais lorsque, en dernier lieu, la Sublime Porte a ordonné à Méhémet Ali, par l'intermédiaire de Mazloum Bey, d'expédier ici les harems de Sélim Pacha et de Muhib Effendi qui se trouvent à Constantinople, il a été répondu que la femme de Sélim Pacha étant une parente de Méhémet Ali, et le harem de Muhib Effendi n'étant pas content de lui, on ne pouvait pas les forcer à venir ici. Or, le harem de Sélim Pacha pourrait se rendre à Constantinople sauf à retourner en suite en Egypte, s'il le désire. Et quant à l'autre harem, quand même il ne serait pas content, il n'est pas convenable qu'il reste là, tandisque Muhib Effendi lui-même se trouve ici. Bref, il faut que ce harem, ainsi que le Miri Aloi Ibrahim Bey, dont on a dernièrement demandé le renvoi, soient expédiés, en tout cas, à Constantinople. C'est de leur arrivée ici que dépendra le renvoi en Egypte des familles des dits transfuges.

Le Commissaire, Muhib Effendi, devra donc exposer convenablement tout ceci à Méhémet Ali Pacha, et travailler à ce que les deux harems susmentionnés, et Ibrahim Bey, soient envoyés ici.

Si le premier régiment des troupes de marine, et celui de la milice urbaine de Brousse, qui est parti avec la flotte Impériale, ont été dirigés et remis au quartier-général Ottoman, lors de l'évacuation de la Syrie par les troupes Egyptiennes, les intentions de la Sublime Porte se trouveraient déjà être remplies. Si, au contraire, ils ont été retirés dans l'intérieur de l'Egypte avec les troupes Egyptiennes, il faudrait à présent les renvoyer à Constantinople.

Pour le cas, donc, où les deux régimens susmentionnés n'auraient pas été remis au quartier-général Ottoman, le dit Commissaire avisera aux moyens de les faire envoyer ici avec tous leurs officiers, soldats, et munitions.

(Translation.)

SAID MUHIB EFFENDI will repair direct to Alexandria in the Imperial steam-vessel which has been placed at his disposal.

He will deliver to his Excellency Mehemet Ali Pasha the firman relative to the hereditary succession in Egypt; that concerning the concession of the provinces of Soudan and containing some other orders; lastly, the letter from his Highness the Grand Vizier. He will represent to him, in suitable terms, that those disputes and differences which have existed for some time past, being entirely removed, there will henceforward be no sort of division or dissension, and that it will be necessary to work in perfect union for the welfare of religion, of the Government, of the country, and of the nation. It is naturally necessary

that the firmans in question should be officially read in full Divan, and also made public. If Mehemet Ali Pasha executes this measure spontaneously, it will be very well. In the contrary case, the said Effendi must exhort him to do so, making the necessary representations to him.

There have been delivered to the said Effendi the Nichan and the Fess, which distinguish the Viziers, destined for his Excellency Mehemet Ali Pasha, and it will be necessary that the latter should put them on on the day on which the firman shall be read.

In case, however, he should not appear disposed to do so, the said Effendi must exhort him thereto.

In the firman relative to the hereditary succession, it is stated and laid down as a condition, that hereafter the Governors of Egypt will have to repair in person to Constantinople to receive the investiture. However, His Highness, in consideration of the advanced age of Mehemet Ali Pasha, and moved by a feeling of humanity and compassion, is not willing that he should expose himself to the fatigue of such a voyage.

In announcing this to Mehemet Ali Pasha, it must be added, in suitable terms, that His Highness would see with satisfaction that he sent one of his sons here to thank His Highness for the signal favour of which he has just been the object.

Mehemet Ali Pasha must accept and execute immediately and without objection all the conditions of the firman which relate to the hereditary succession, as well as all the orders contained in our Imperial firman.

If, however, contrary to our expectation, he should be offended with some of those conditions, and if he should show any hesitation, the said Effendi will represent to him, in persuasive terms, that these resolutions of His Highness are definitive, that not one of them can be changed or modified, and that, moreover, the august Allied Courts would not give their assent.

If the Pasha will not allow himself to be convinced, and if he should persist in his opinion, attempts must be made to induce him to follow the right course, by declaring to him that it is his interest to close, without provoking afresh the employment of coercive measures; that if it was necessary again to have recourse to war, he alone would be responsible for the human blood which would in consequence be shed; in short, that the non-acceptance of one of the established conditions will be prejudicial to the hereditary right which has just been granted to him as a signal favour.

When the said Effendi has arrived at Alexandria, he will perceive in the first or second interview what is the course which Mehemet Ali intends to follow.

If, in five or six days' time, his mission terminates to his satisfaction, he will have to return without delay to Constantinople.

If, on the contrary, the affair should appear to him still to require long discussions, and that he should be obliged to remain at Alexandria fifteen or twenty days, then, as it is necessary that we should know here the course which Mehemet Ali may follow in the first instance, and the language which he may hold, the said Effendi may send back the Imperial steam-vessel with a report containing the information which he may have gathered during some days in his interviews with Mehemet Ali Pasha. Lastly, in case Mehemet Ali should in nowise take into consideration the overtures of the delegate of the Sublime Porte, and should wholly reject the conditions which are offered to him, then, as it will be necessary to concert afresh with the Allied Courts upon this affair, the said Effendi will point out to the Pasha the necessity of his giving him in writing his refusal to accept the conditions in question. He will then make him write clearly all that he may have to say, and he will submit the paper to the Sublime Porte, for whose answer he will wait.

The said Effendi being the bearer of our Imperial firman relative to the arrears of tribute of Egypt, of the Island of Candia, and of Syria, it is evident that Mehemet Ali Pasha must offer no objection, but that he must pay the whole of the tribute of Egypt and of Candia up to the end of the current year, and that of Syria up to the end of the year 1255 (March 4, 1840). However, if Mehemet Ali had intended to keep these arrears on account of the expence which has been occasioned to him by the stay of the Imperial fleet at Alexandria, it will be pointed out to him that the voyage to, and the stay in, Egypt of that fleet having taken place against the will of the Sultan, the Sublime Porte should

not bear the expence which that has occasioned; that that would, moreover, be contrary to the Treaty concluded between the august Courts, since it is stipulated that no sort of charge shall be made for the support of the fleet in question; that, consequently, it could not be permitted that the arrears of tribute should be retained for such a reason, and that it is necessary that Mehemet Ali should discharge them without delay, and should thus settle this point in a definitive manner.

If the Pasha should allege, that on account of the war it was impossible for him to levy the whole of the imposts of Syria, and that he proposes not to confound this point with the other arrears, but to settle them separately, he must be answered, that in fact the Sublime Porte must receive from him all which it has been possible for him to raise in Syria in the said year, without prejudice to its afterwards collecting the remainder upon the spot according to the authentic documents which must be furnished to it by the Pasha. Lastly, in case of its being wholly impossible to arrange at Alexandria the affair of the tribute of Syria for the present year 1256, it will be settled that Mehemet Ali Pasha shall send here a Commissioner *ad hoc*, with whom this point shall be arranged as a matter of account.

With respect to the passage in the above-mentioned firman as to the hereditary succession in which there is a question of the control, this is the meaning and the object of it. As the quarter of the revenues of Egypt is to revert to the Sublime Porte, and as the imposts to be paid by the inhabitants of Egypt must be in conformity with the new laws of the Empire, it is necessary that it should be known here what is exactly the amount of the effective revenues of Egypt, as well as the manner in which the inhabitants are treated there, and it is for this purpose that the Sublime Porte wishes to send an agent who should reside there. That agent will take no direct part in the levying of the imposts, nor in the expences; his mission will be confined to ascertaining facts, and receiving the sums which revert to the Sublime Porte. There is, then, nothing in all this which ought to give umbrage to Mehemet Ali. But, even if he should hesitate to consent thereto, he must be made to observe that this point, decided upon in a definitive manner, cannot be changed. It must be added, in suitable terms, that, after having settled the affair with him, the Sublime Porte will send an agent to Egypt, to whom (as he will be commissioned to receive the sums which revert to the Sultan) it will be proper to give the title of Tefterdar (Treasurer).

In one of the letters from Mehemet Ali Pasha, which arrived here by Mazloum Bey, he requested that, since the deserter Ahmed Pasha, as well as Sheriff Aga and Osman Bey, have had to remain in Egypt, their families should also be sent there; it is not intended to refuse this request. But when, lately, the Sublime Porte commanded Mehemet Ali, through the medium of Mazloum Bey, to send here the harems of Selim Pasha and of Muhib Effendi who are at Constantinople, it was answered that the wife of Selim Pasha being a relation of Mehemet Ali, and the harem of Muhib Effendi not being pleased with him, they could not be forced to come here. Now, the harem of Selim Pasha might repair to Constantinople with the power of returning afterwards to Egypt, if it wishes to do so. And as to the other harem, if even it should not be satisfied, it is not proper that it should remain there, while Muhib Effendi himself is here. In short, it is necessary that this harem, as well as the Miri Aloi Ibrahim Bey, whose dismissal was lately required, should be sent, in any case, to Constantinople. Upon their arrival here will depend the return of the families of the above-named deserters to Egypt.

The Commissioner, Muhib Effendi, will, then, suitably explain all this to Mehemet Ali Pasha, and exert himself so that the two harems above-mentioned, and Ibrahim Bey, should be sent here.

If the first regiment of marines, and that of the town-militia of Broussa, which went with the Imperial fleet, have been sent to the Ottoman head-quarters and there delivered up, after the evacuation of Syria by the Egyptian Troops, the intentions of the Sublime Porte would be already accomplished. If, on the contrary, they have been withdrawn into the interior of Egypt with the Egyptian Troops, they must now be sent back to Constantinople.

In case, then, the two above-mentioned regiments should not have been delivered up at the Ottoman head-quarters, the said Commissioner will devise the means of causing them to be sent here with all their officers, soldiers, and equipage.

Inclosure 2 in No. 172.

Firman of Investiture sent to Mehemet Ali.

(Traduction.) 21 Zilhadjé, 1256 / 13 Février, 1841.

C'EST avec une vive satisfaction que j'ai été informé de la soumission dont tu viens de faire preuve, ainsi que des sentimens de loyauté, de dévouement, et de fidélité que tu manifestes, tant envers ma personne Impériale, que pour les intérêts de mon Empire. Ces sentimens, joints au zèle et à la sagesse dont tu es doué, ainsi qu'aux connaissances et à l'expérience que tu as acquises par rapport aux affaires de l'Egypte dans le cours de ton administration, me sont garants que tu sauras mériter les marques de faveur et de confiance que je veux te donner, c'est-à-dire que tu en reconnaitras tout le prix, et que tu t'appliqueras à transmettre ces sentimens à ta postérité. Dans cette conviction, je t'ai réintégré dans le Gouvernement de l'Egypte, compris dans telles et telles limites, et y ai ajouté le privilège de l'hérédité sous les conditions suivantes:—

Lorsque par la suite le Gouvernement de l'Egypte deviendra vacant, il sera conféré à celui parmi tes enfans mâles qui sera préféré et choisi par moi, et le même principe sera suivi à l'égard de leurs enfans mâles. En cas d'extinction de ta descendance masculine, ma Sublime Porte conférera le dit Gouvernement à quelqu'un autre, et les mâles issus de la ligne féminine n'y auront aucune espèce de droit.

Celui parmi tes enfans qui dorénavant sera monté au Gouvernement de l'Egypte, devra se rendre en personne à Constantinople pour en recevoir l'investiture.

Les Gouverneurs d'Egypte, bien que jouissant du privilège de l'hérédité, seront assimilés aux autres Vizirs sous le rapport du grade et de la préséance, laquelle se réglera d'après l'ancienneté; par conséquent, le cérémonial, les dénominations, et les titres dont on se sert à l'égard des autres Vizirs de ma Sublime Porte, seront également applicables aux Gouverneurs de l'Egypte.

Les dispositions salutaires de mon Hatti Chérif de Gulhané, toutes les lois établies ou à établir par ma Sublime Porte, ainsi que tous les Traités conclus ou à conclure entre elle et les Cours amies, seront de même exécutés en entier en Egypte.

Tous les impôts et revenus de l'Egypte seront perçus en mon nom; mais comme les habitans de l'Egypte sont aussi des sujets de ma Sublime Porte, et que par conséquent il faut les garantir à jamais de toute espèce de cruauté et de vexation, les dîmes, droits, et autres impôts qui seront prélevés dans le dit Gouvernement, devront l'être conformément aux principes en vigueur dans les autres provinces de mon Empire.

Quelque soit la somme à laquelle s'élèveront annuellement les droits de douanes, dîmes, et autres impôts et revenus quelconques du Gouvernement de l'Egypte, un quart de ce revenu brut, c'est-à-dire, avant d'en faire aucune déduction de frais, sera pris et payé à ma Sublime Porte; les autres trois quarts seront laissés aux Gouverneurs de l'Egypte pour les frais de perception, pour les dépenses administratives et militaires, ainsi que pour leur propre usage, comme aussi en payement de vivres que l'Egypte, d'après l'usage, fournit tous les ans, en nature, aux deux Villes Saintes. La qualité et le mode d'acquittement du tribut qui revient à ma Sublime Porte sera valable, tels qu'ils sont déterminés ici, pendant cinq ans, à partir de la présente année, 1257. Ensuite ces points doivent être réglés d'une manière convenable, conformément à l'état futur de l'Egypte et aux exigences du moment. Ma Sublime Porte ayant l'obligation de connaître exactement les revenus annuels de l'Egypte, ainsi que le mode dont on y prélevera les dîmes et autres impôts, et cette connaissance ne pouvant être obtenue qu'au moyen d'un contrôle établi dans la dite province, on prendra à ce sujet les mesures que je ferai connaître par une ordonnance Impériale.

Ma Sublime Porte ayant résolu d'améliorer la monnaie de l'Empire qui sert de régulateur pour les transactions du peuple, et ce point devant

être réglé d'une manière qui rendra désormais impossible toute altération de taux et d'aloi, les monnaies d'or et d'argent qui se frappent en Egypte en mon nom et avec ma permission Impériale, devront, sous le rapport de taux et d'aloi, et de la forme, être pareilles à celles de Constantinople.

Dix-huit mille hommes de troupes étant suffisant, en tems de paix, pour la sécurité intérieure de l'Egypte, il ne sera pas permis de dépasser ce nombre. Toutefois, comme les forces de terre et de mer de l'Egypte sont entretenues pour le service de ma Sublime Porte, celle-ci pourra en tems de guerre augmenter le dit nombre de telle manière qu'elle le jugera à propos.

Comme il a été établi que les soldats qui seront dans les autres parties de l'Empire, doivent, après cinq années de service, être remplacés par de nouvelles recrues, cette même pratique devra ainsi être suivie en Egypte. Par conséquent on prendra parmi les troupes Egyptiennes actuelles les soldats provenant du dernier recrutement; et sauf à fixer plus tard la durée de leur service, d'après la date de leur enrôlement, on en formera 20,000 hommes, dont 18,000 seront employés, ainsi qu'il a été dit plus haut, pour le service intérieur de l'Egypte, et 2,000 pour le service d'ici. Et puisqu'un cinquième de ces 20,000 hommes devra être renouvelé tous les ans, on levera annuellement sur la population effective de l'Egypte 4,000 recrues, en procédant avec la plus grande humanité, et en tirant impartialement au sort ceux qui remplissent les conditions voulues par la loi. De ces 4,000 hommes, 3,600 seront retenus là, et 400 seront envoyés ici. Mais tant les uns que les autres seront renvoyés dans leurs foyers après cinq années de service, et ceux dont le terme sera achevé, ne pourront plus être enrôlés.

Quoique les troupes qui serviront en Egypte pourront, à cause du climat, être vêtu d'une étoffe différente, cependant la coupe et la forme de leurs habits, ainsi que leurs Nichans et drapeaux, ne se distingueront en rien de ceux en usage dans les autres troupes de ma Sublime Porte.

Les pavillons des bâtimens Egyptiens, comme aussi les uniformes et Nichan des officiers et des soldats de marine, seront pareils à ceux d'ici.

Les officiers de terre et de mer, jusqu'au grade de Kol Aghassi (Major) inclusivement, seront nommés au choix des Gouverneurs de l'Egypte; les grades supérieurs ne pourront être conférés que par moi, sur la proposition des dits Gouverneurs.

Il ne sera pas permis aux Gouverneurs d'Egypte de construire désormais des vaisseaux de guerre sans la permission expresse de ma Sublime Porte.

Comme le privilège de l'hérédité dépend de chacun des présentes conditions, le non-accomplissement d'une d'entre elles entraînerait la révocation et l'annulation immédiate du dit privilège.

Telle étant ma volonté Impériale, toi et tes enfans et descendans vous devrez apprécier avec reconnaissance cette insigne faveur Impériale, et exécuter scrupuleusement les présentes conditions.

Vous aurez à veiller constamment au bien-être et à la sûreté des habitans de l'Egypte, à les préserver de tout acte d'injustice et de vexation, et à vous abstenir de tout procédé contraire au contenu du présent firman.

C'est dans ce but que cet ordre Impérial, &c.

(Translation.)

21 Zilhadjé, 1259.
February 13, 1841.

IT is with lively satisfaction that I have received information of the submission of which you have just given proof, as likewise of the feelings of loyalty, of devotion, and of fidelity which you show, as well towards my Imperial person as for the interests of my Empire. Those feelings, united to the zeal and wisdom with which you are endowed, as well as to the knowledge and experience which you have acquired with respect to the affairs of Egypt in the course of your administration, are guarantees to me that you will know how to deserve the marks of favour and confidence which I wish to bestow upon you, that is to say,

that you will acknowledge all the value thereof, and that you will study to transmit these feelings to your posterity. With this conviction, I have reinstated you in the Government of Egypt, comprehended within such and such limits, and have added thereto the privilege of the hereditary succession upon the following conditions:—

When, in the course of time, the Government of Egypt shall become vacant, it shall be conferred upon him among your male children who shall be preferred and chosen by me, and the same principle shall be followed with regard to their male children. In case of your male descent becoming extinct, my Sublime Porte will confer the said Government upon some other person, and the male issue of the female line shall have no sort of right thereto.

He among your children who shall hereafter be raised to the Government of Egypt, must repair in person to Constantinople to receive the investiture thereof.

The Governors of Egypt, although enjoying the privilege of the hereditary succession, shall be assimilated to the other Viziers with respect to rank and to precedence, which shall be regulated according to seniority; consequently, the ceremonial, the denominations, and the titles, which are used with regard to the other Viziers of my Sublime Porte, shall be equally applicable to the Governors of Egypt.

The salutary provisions of my Hatti Sheriff of Gulhané, all the laws established or to be established by my Sublime Porte, as well as all the treaties concluded, or to be concluded, between it and the friendly Courts, shall likewise be fully executed in Egypt.

All the imposts and revenues of Egypt shall be levied in my name; but as the inhabitants of Egypt are also subjects of my Sublime Porte, and as, consequently, they must be for ever secured from every sort of cruelty and oppression, the tenths, duties, and other imposts, which shall be levied within the said Government, shall be so in conformity with the principles in force in the other provinces of my Empire.

Whatever may be the sum to which the customs, duties, tenths, and other imposts and revenues of whatever description of the Government of Egypt may annually amount, a quarter of that gross revenue, that is to say, before making any deduction therefrom for expences, shall be taken and paid to my Sublime Porte; the other three quarters shall be left to the Governors of Egypt for the expenses of collection, for those of administration and for the military expences as well as for their own use, as also in payment of the provisions which Egypt according to custom, furnishes every year in kind to the two Holy Cities. The nature and the form of payment of the tribute which reverts to my Sublime Porte, such as they are decided upon here, shall hold good for five years from the present year 1257. Afterwards these points must be regulated in a suitable manner, according to the future state of Egypt and to the exigencies of the moment. My Sublime Porte being obliged to know exactly the annual revenues of Egypt, as well as the manner in which the tithes and other imposts will be levied there, and this knowledge being only to be acquired by means of a control established in the said province, measures will be adopted upon this subject which I shall make known by an Imperial Ordinance.

My Sublime Porte being resolved to improve the coin of the Empire which serves to regulate the transactions of the people, and it being necessary that this point should be settled in a manner which will render any alteration of value or standard henceforth impossible, the gold and silver coins which are struck in Egypt in my name and with my Imperial permission, shall, with regard to value, and standard, and form, be similar to those of Constantinople.

Eighteen thousand men being sufficient in time of peace for the internal security of Egypt, it will not be permitted that that number should be exceeded. However, as the land and sea forces of Egypt are maintained for the service of my Sublime Porte, the latter shall have the power in time of war of increasing that number in such manner as it may think fit.

As it has been settled that the soldiers who shall be in other parts of the Empire must, after five years' service, be replaced by new recruits, this same practice must also be followed in Egypt. Consequently, from among the present Egyptian troops, the soldiers arising from the last recruiting shall be selected; and with the reservation that the duration of their service shall be hereafter fixed according to the date of their enlistment; there shall be formed thereof 20,000 men,

of whom 18,000 shall be employed, as above stated, for the internal service of Egypt, and 2,000 for service here. And since a fifth of these 20,000 men must be renewed every year, 4,000 recruits shall be levied from the effective population of Egypt, acting with the greatest humanity, and impartially drawing lots for those who answer to the conditions prescribed by the law. Of these 4,000 men, 3,600 shall be kept there, and 400 shall be sent here. But one as well as the other shall be sent back to their homes after five years' service, and those whose term shall have expired cannot again be enlisted.

Although the troops which may serve in Egypt shall be allowed, on account of the climate, to be clothed with a different stuff, yet the cut and form of their clothes, as well as their nichans and flags, shall in no wise be distinguished from those in use among other troops of my Sublime Porte.

The flags of the Egyptian vessels, as well as the uniforms and nichan of the officers and men of the navy, shall be similar to those used here.

The officers of the land and sea forces up to the rank of Kol-Aghassi (major) inclusively, shall be appointed according to the choice of the Governors of Egypt; the superior ranks can only be conferred by me on the recommendation of the said Governors.

The Governors of Egypt shall not be permitted henceforth to build vessels of war without the express permission of my Sublime Porte.

As the privilege of the hereditary succession depends upon each of the present conditions, the non-fulfilment of one of them would cause the immediate revocation and annulment of the said privilege.

This being my Imperial will, you, and your children, and descendants, will appreciate with gratitude this signal Imperial favour, and scrupulously execute the present conditions.

You will have constantly to watch over the welfare and safety of the inhabitants of Egypt, to preserve them from any act of injustice and oppression, and to abstain from any proceeding contrary to the contents of the present firman.

It is with this object that this Imperial order, &c.

Inclosure 3 in No. 172.

Imperial Firman addressed to Mehemet Ali, conferring upon him the Government of Nubia, Darfour, Kordufan, and Sennaar, and enjoining him to abolish the Negro-hunts, &c.

(Traduction.) 21 Zilhadjé, 1256. 13 Février, 1841.

A MON Vizir Méhémet Ali Pacha, Gouverneur d'Egypte, à qui je confie à présent l'administration des provinces de Nubie, Darfour, Cordufan, et Senaar.

O toi, mon susdit Vizir! comme ainsi qu'il a été dit dans une autre ordonnance Impériale, j'ai jugé à propos de te réintégrer dans le Gouvernement de l'Egypte, comprise dans ses limites connues, et d'y ajouter l'hérédité sous certaines conditions, j'ai pris aussi la gracieuse résolution de t'accorder sans l'hérédité le Gouvernement de Nubie, Darfour, Cordufan, et Senaar, avec toutes leurs dépendances, c'est-à-dire, avec toutes leurs annexes situées en-dehors de l'Egypte, et j'ai rendu à ce sujet une ordonnance Impériale.

Tu t'appliqueras donc par suite de ton habilité et de ta sagesse à administrer et à faire prospérer ces pays conformément à mes intentions pleines de justice, et assurer le repos et le bien-être de leurs habitans. Tu soumettras, aussi, à ma Sublime Porte une liste exacte des revenus annuels des dites provinces.

Les incursions que les troupes ont coutume de faire de tems en tems dans les villages des pays ci-dessus nommés, et par suite desquels les individus jeunes et vigoureux des deux sexes sont fait captifs et restent entre les mains des soldats en payement de leur solde, entraînent, nécessairement, la ruine et le dépeuplement de ces contrées, et sont contraires à notre sainte loi et aux maximes de la justice.

Comme donc cet usage, ainsi que celui de réduire quelques uns des

dits captifs à la condition d'eunuques, est sous tous les rapports opposé à ma volonté Impériale, et qu'en général de pareils actes de cruauté répugnent aux principes de justice et d'humanité que j'ai hautement proclamés dès mon avènement au trône:

Tu aviseras avec la plus grande sollicitude aux moyens de les défendre sévèrement, et de les abolir d'une manière définitive.

Tous les officiers, soldats et autres employés qui se trouvent en Egypte, à l'exception de certains individus qui s'y sont rendus avec ma flotte, ayant été gracieusement pardonnés par moi, tu auras à leur annoncer à tous cette heureuse nouvelle.

D'après ce qui est dit dans l'autre ordonnance Impériale mentionnée ci-dessus, les officiers employés auprès de toi, et qu'il s'agira de nommer à un grade supérieur à celui de Kol Aghassi (Major), ne pourront être nommés qu'après qu'il en aura été référé à ma Sublime Porte.

Toutefois ceux qui se trouvent actuellement au service, seront confirmés dans leur grade, et tu auras à soumettre à ma Sublime Porte une liste de ces officiers, pour que l'on puisse publier et expédier leur firman de confirmation.

Ma volonté Impériale étant que tous ces divers points soient exécutés, tu devras t'empresser de t'y conformer exactement, et c'est à cette fin que, &c. &c.

(Translation.)

21 Zilhadgé, 1256.
February 13, 1841.

TO my Vizier Mehemet Ali Pasha, Governor of Egypt, to whom I now confide the administration of the provinces of Nubia, Darfour, Cordufan, and Sennaar.

O my above-mentioned Vizier! since, as has been said in another Imperial Ordinance, I have thought fit to reinstate you in the government of Egypt, comprehended within its known limits, and to add thereto the hereditary succession upon certain conditions, I have also taken the gracious resolution of granting to you, without the hereditary succession, the government of Nubia, Darfour, Cordufan, and Sennaar, with all their dependencies, that is to say, with all the territories annexed to them situated out of Egypt, and I have issued an Imperial Ordinance upon this subject.

You will then study, by means of your intelligence and of your wisdom, to govern those countries and to make them prosper in conformity with my just intentions, and to insure the tranquillity and the welfare of their inhabitants. You will, likewise, submit to my Sublime Porte an exact list of the annual revenues of the said provinces.

The incursions which the troops are accustomed to make from time to time into the villages of the above-named countries, and in consequence of which young and vigorous individuals of both sexes are made prisoners and remain in the hands of the soldiers in discharge of their pay, lead, necessarily, to the ruin and depopulation of those countries, and are contrary to our holy law and to the rules of justice.

As, then, this custom, as well as that of reducing some of the said captives to the condition of eunuchs, is in all respects contrary to my Imperial will, and as in general such acts of cruelty are repugnant to the principles of justice and humanity which I have loudly proclaimed since my accession to the throne:

You will devise with the greatest care the means of rigidly prohibiting them and of abolishing them in a definitive manner.

All the officers, soldiers, and other public servants who are in Egypt, with the exception of certain individuals who repaired thither with my fleet, having been graciously pardoned by me, you will have to announce this happy intelligence to all.

According to what is said in the other Imperial Ordinance above-mentioned, the officers employed about you, and whom it may be a question of appointing to a rank superior to that of Kol Aghassi (Major), cannot be appointed until a reference shall have been made to my Sublime Porte.

However those who are actually in service shall be confirmed in their rank;

and you will have to submit to my Sublime Porte a list of these officers, in order that their firman of confirmation may be published and sent to them.

It being my Imperial will that all these several points should be executed, you will take pains to act exactly in conformity therewith, and it is to this end that, &c., &c.

Inclosure 4 in No. 172.

The Grand Vizier to Mehemet Ali, on his nomination to the hereditary Government of Egypt.

(Traduction.)

21 Zilhadjé, 1256.
13 Février, 1841.

L'EMPRESSEMENT de votre Excellence à remplir les devoirs de l'obéissance, en prouvant, par des faits promptement exécutés, la sincérité de la soumission que vous aviez offerte, a été fort agréable à Sa Hautesse, qui a daigné en conséquence vous réintégrer dans le Gouvernement de l'Egypte et vous en accorder l'hérédité.

J'envoie à votre Excellence par Saïd Muhib Effendi un firman revêtu d'un Hatti Chérif, et contenant certaines conditions attachées à l'hérédité, ainsi que le Nichan, que Sa Hautesse a bien voulu vous conférer, comme étant celui qui est affecté au rang de Vizir. Sa Hautesse est convaincu, qu'agissant avec cette prudence et cette haute sagesse qui vous distinguent, vous ne vous écarterez jamais de la voie de la droiture, de l'obéissance et de dévouement à votre Souverain.

Sa Hautesse a toute confiance en votre Excellence, et si l'on a établi des conditions dans le firman susdit, ce n'est pas qu'on ait le moindre soupçon sur votre compte. Mais indépendamment de la nécessité absolue que des conditions essentielles soient rattachées à une aussi grande concession que celle du privilège de l'hérédité, Sa Hautesse a voulu et a jugé à propos d'insérer ces conditions dans le firman, parcequ'elle les considère non seulement comme un moyen de prévenir toute espèce de différends qui, vu les difficultés de prévoir l'avenir et à cause de vicissitude humaine, pourraient surgir par la suite, mais aussi comme une mesure de précaution tendant à assurer pour toujours le repos et la tranquillité des habitans de l'Egypte.

Désormais la Sublime Porte aura tout aussi peu lieu de concevoir des soupçons que votre Excellence en aura de parler de sa sûreté personnelle et de l'avenir de sa famille.

Enfin, il n'y a plus entre nous aucun motif de contestation, c'est-à-dire les démêlés qui ont subsistés depuis, ont cessé, grâce à Dieu ; et il n'y a pas de doute que votre Excellence ne remplisse avec empressement le devoir de témoigner sa reconnaissance pour les bienfaits et les faveurs dont elle a été ainsi l'objet de la part de Sa Hautesse.

Dorénavant nous serons, s'il plait à Dieu, unis de cœur et d'âme, et n'ayant entre nous aucun sujet de division, nous emploierons, sous les auspices de Sa Hautesse, nos communs efforts à servir notre religion, notre Gouvernement, notre patrie, et notre nation : ce qui me cause la plus grande satisfaction à moi, votre sincère ami, ainsi qu'à tous les Ministres de la Sublime Porte, &c., &c.

(Translation.)

21 Zilhadjé, 1256
February 13, 1841.

THE readiness of your Excellency to fulfil the duties of obedience, by proving, by acts promptly executed, the sincerity of the submission which you have offered, has been very agreeable to His Highness, who has deigned in consequence to reinstate you in the government of Egypt, and to grant to you the hereditary succession thereto.

I send to your Excellency by Saïd Muhib Effendi a firman accompanied by a Hatti Sheriff, and containing certain conditions attached to the hereditary succes-

sion, as well as the Nishan, which His Highness has been pleased to confer upon you as being that which is appropriated to the rank of Vizier. His Highness is convinced that, acting with that prudence and that exalted wisdom which distinguish you, you will never wander from the path of uprightness, of obedience, and of devotion to your sovereign.

His Highness has full confidence in your Excellency, and if conditions have been laid down in the above-mentioned firman, it is not because there is any suspicion with respect to you. But, independently of the absolute necessity of attaching essential conditions to so great a concession as that of the privilege of the hereditary succession, His Highness wished and thought fit to insert those conditions in the firman, because he considers them not only as a means of preventing every sort of difference which, considering the difficulty of seeing into futurity and on account of the vicissitudes in human affairs, might arise in the course of time, but also as a measure of precaution tending to secure for ever the repose and tranquillity of the inhabitants of Egypt.

Hereafter the Sublime Porte will have quite as little reason to entertain suspicions as your Excellency will have to speak of your personal safety and of the prospects of your family.

In short, there is no longer any cause of dispute between us, that is to say, the quarrels which have existed have ceased, thanks to God; and there is no doubt that your Excellency will zealously fulfil the duty of testifying your gratitude for the benefits and favours of His Highness of which you have thus been the object.

Henceforth we shall, please God, be united heart and soul, and, not having any subject of discord between us, we shall, under the auspices of His Highness, employ our joint efforts to serve our religion, our government, our country, and our nation; which causes the greatest satisfaction to me, your sincere friend, as well as to all the Ministers of the Sublime Porte, &c., &c.

Inclosure 5 in No. 172.

Official Note from the Sublime Porte to the Imperial and Royal Internuncio.

(Traduction.) 21 Zilhadjé, 1256. / 13 Février, 1841.

NOUS communiquons à votre Excellence ci-joint, une copie du firman Impérial qui, en raison des faits par lesquels Méhémet Ali Pacha a prouvé sa soumission, et conformément à la promesse de Sa Hautesse le Sultan, réintègre le dit Pacha dans le Gouvernement de l'Egypte, et lui en accorde l'hérédité,—firman qui contient aussi les conditions que Sa Hautesse a jugé à propos d'établir à ce sujet.

Nous espérons fort et considérons comme très-probable que Méhémet Ali Pacha s'empressera d'accepter et d'exécuter en entier les dites conditions. Cependant si, contre toute attente, il refusait de le faire, ces conditions équitables ne seraient pas susceptibles d'être changées ou modifiées, vu qu'une pareille modification porterait atteinte aux droits de souveraineté, à l'honneur de la Sublime Porte, ainsi qu'à la dignité des Puissances Alliées. En outre, la Sublime Porte, ainsi qu'il est connu à votre Excellence, a agi, depuis le commencement de la Question Egyptienne, suivant l'avis et les conseils des Quatre Augustes Cours, ses Amies et Alliées. Par conséquent le Gouvernement de Sa Hautesse le Sultan prie formellement les dites Cours de vouloir bien, dans l'hypothèse susmentionnée, lui accorder de nouveau l'assistance dont il aura besoin.

En attendant, puisque la question d'Egypte doit être considérée comme entièrement terminée, et qu'il n'existe plus de ce côté-là ni blocus, ni aucune espèce d'embarras, il sera convenable que les Consuls des Quatre Cours Alliées qui ont été rappelés d'Alexandrie, soient renvoyés à leurs postes.

C'est pour communiquer tout ceci à votre Excellence que nous lui remettons la présente Note Officielle, pareille à celles qui ont été adressées à MM. les Représentans de la Grande Bretagne, de Prusse, et de Russie.

Nous renouvelons à votre Excellence l'assurance de notre haute et affectueuse considération.

P.S.—Nous joignons à la présente une copie d'un autre firman Impérial qui confère à Méhémet Ali, sans hérédité, l'administration de certaines provinces situées en-dehors de l'Egypte, et qui renferme aussi quelques autres résolutions Souveraines.

(Translation.)

21 Zilhadgé, 1256.
February 13, 1841.

WE communicate to your Excellency herewith a copy of the Imperial firman which, on account of the actions by which Mehemet Ali Pasha has proved his submission, and in conformity with the promise of His Highness the Sultan, reinstates the said Pasha in the Government of Egypt, and grants to him the hereditary succession thereto,—which firman also contains the conditions which His Highness has thought fit to lay down upon this subject.

We strongly hope and consider as very probable, that Mehemet Ali Pasha will eagerly accept and fully execute the said conditions. However if, contrary to all expectation, he should refuse to do so, those just conditions would not be susceptble of alteration or modification, considering that such modification would be prejudicial to the rights of Sovereignty, to the honour of the Sublime Porte, as well as to the dignity of the Allied Powers. Moreover, the Sublime Porte, as your Excellency knows, has acted, from the commencement of the Egyptian Question, according to the opinion and advice of the Four August Courts, its friends and Allies. Consequently, the Government of His Highness the Sultan formally requests the said Courts to have the goodness, in the above-mentioned contingency, again to afford him the assistance of which he will be in need.

In the meanwhile, since the Question of Egypt must be considered as entirely terminated, and as there no longer exists in that quarter either a blockade, or any sort of difficulty, it will be expedient that the Consuls of the Four Allied Courts who were recalled from Alexandria, should be sent back to their posts.

It is for the purpose of communicating all this to your Excellency that we send to you this official Note, similar to those which have been addressed to the Representatives of Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia.

We renew to your Excellency the assurance of our high and affectionate consideration.

P.S.—We herewith inclose a copy of another Imperial firman which confers upon Mehemet Ali, without the hereditary right, the administration of certain provinces situated out of Egypt, and which also contains some other sovereign resolutions.

Inclosure 6 in No. 172.

Circular addressed by the Sublime Porte to the Ambassador of France, and the other Representatives, to announce to them the final settlement of the Egyptian Question.

(Traduction.)

SON Excellence Méhémet Ali Pacha ayant effectué la soumission qu'il avait annoncée, la question d'Egypte se trouve par là terminée, et il n'existe plus, à l'égard de la dite Province, ni blocus, ni aucun autre espèce d'embarras ou d'entraves commerciales.

C'est pour porter officiellement ce fait à la connaissance de toutes les Cours étrangères, Amies de la Sublime Porte, que nous avons adressé une Note Officielle à chacun de MM. les autres Représentans, de même que nous remettons la présente à son Excellence M. l'Ambassadeur de France, en lui renouvelant à cette occasion l'assurance de notre haute et affectueuse considération.

(Translation.)

HIS Excellency Mehemet Ali Pasha having carried into effect the submission which he had announced, the Question of Egypt is thereby terminated and there no longer exists, with regard to that province either a blockade, or any other sort of difficulty or of impediment to commerce.

It is for the purpose of officially communicating this fact to all the Foreign Courts, friends of the Sublime Porte, that we have addressed an Official Note to each of the other Representatives, in the same manner as we send this to his Excellency the Ambassador of France, renewing to him on this occasion the assurance of our high and affectionate consideration.

Inclosure 7 in No. 172.

Imperial Firman addressed to Mehemet Ali, relative to the Arrears of Tribute.

(Traduction.) 21 Zilhadjé, 1256 / 13 Février, 1841.

A MON Vizir Méhémet Ali Pacha, Gouverneur d'Egypte.

Je t'envoie, par Saïd Muhib Effendi, un des hauts fonctionnaires de ma Sublime Porte, qui se rend à Alexandrie, en mission extraordinaire, les listes des tributs et arrérages qui se sont accumulés tant pour l'Egypte, que je viens de te conférer gracieusement à titre héréditaire, que pour la Syrie et l'île de Candie, qui ne se trouvent placés sous ton administration.

Comme tes fonctions t'imposent le devoir de verser intégralement et sans délai, dans mon trésor Impérial, les dites sommes arriérées, je t'adresse le présent firman pour que tu effectues en entier les payemens en question, et pour que tu fournisses par là une nouvelle preuve de ton obéissance et de ta fidélité.

(Translation.)

21 Zilhadjé, 1256. / February 13, 184 •

To my Vizier Mehemet Ali Pasha, Governor of Egypt,

I SEND to you, by Saïd Muhib Effendi, one of the high functionaries of my Sublime Porte, who is going to Alexandria upon an extraordinary mission, the lists of the tribute and arrears which have accumulated for Egypt, which I have graciously conferred upon you with the hereditary right, as well as for Syria and the Island of Candia, which are not under your administration.

As your functions impose upon you the duty of paying wholly and without delay, into my Imperial treasury, the said sums in arrear, I address this firman to you in order that you may make the payments in question in full, and in order that you may thereby afford a fresh proof of your obedience and of your fidelity.

No. 173.

R. More O'Ferrall, Esq. to Lord Leveson.

My Lord, *Admiralty, March* 12, 1841

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Viscount Palmerston, copies of two letters from Admiral the Honourable Sir Robert Stopford, dated the 28th of February and 1st of March last, with their inclosures, relative to the evacuation of Syria by the Egyptian army.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) R. MORE O'FERRALL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 173.

Admiral Stopford to R. More O'Ferrall, Esq.

"Princess Charlotte," at Malta,
February 28, 1841.

Sir,

I HAVE great satisfaction in communicating to you for their Lordships' information, the gratifying announcement of the entire evacuation of Syria by the Egyptian army, which event took place on the 18th instant, when Ibrahim Pasha proceeded by sea with the sick and wounded, whilst the remainder of his army marched by land by El-Arish, as detailed by Captain Stewart and Colonel Bridgeman's letters, copies of which I have now the honour to inclose.

In thus concluding so happily and successfully an enterprise of no common description, and at one time of small promise from its apparently inadequate means and complex elements, as well as the imposing attitude of the Egyptian force then in possession of the whole country, with all its fortresses and strongholds; it is a matter of no small gratification to me, under so momentous a responsibility as Commander-in-Chief of the whole expedition, that I was able to accomplish in so brief a period and with so inconsiderable a waste of human life on the part of the Allies, objects of such paramount importance to the peace of Europe. In return for which I am bound to acknowledge with gratitude their Lordships' most liberal rewards to the officers who had opportunities of distinguishing themselves in the fulfilment of my orders.

From the various documents herewith transmitted, and the more voluminous correspondence now forwarded by the "Liverpool" packet, it will be observed by their Lordships, that Captain Stewart's presence and co-operation in the final arrangements at Jaffa and Gaza were of most essential service, as affording consistency to divided councils, and a firm and judicious support in honourable fulfilment, under delicate and conflicting circumstances, of the conditions under which the retreat of Ibrahim Pasha and his army, which turned out to be more formidable than was supposed, was finally effected.

Captain Stewart speaks most favourably of the conduct of the captains and commanders of the steamers employed upon that dangerous coast, and it is equally satisfactory to me. The only painful attendant on this warfare has been the more or less prevalence of fever and dysentery at Djounie and Acre, from which many have gradually recovered, but to many it has been fatal. I am however happy to be enabled to inform their Lordships, that in consequence of some cases of plague at Acre and Sidon all the marines are now embarked, and most probably now with the squadron at Marmorice, or on their way to Malta.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) ROBERT STOPFORD,
Admiral.

Sub-Inclosure 1 in Inclosure 1 in No. 173.

Captain Houston Stewart to Admiral Stopford.

Her Majesty's Ship "Benbow," St. George's Bay,
Beyrout, February 20, 1841.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to announce to you the entire evacuation of Syria by the Egyptian army; Ibrahim Pasha, who remained to the last, having himself embarked on board the Egyptian steamer on Thursday the 18th instant. This would have been effected last week had not the weather been such for several days as to render communication with the shipping impracticable. His retreat has been conducted with much less loss of life than had been anticipated. He takes about 30,000 men from Gaza

back into Egypt by land and sea, exclusive of the column which marched by the Desert under the command of Solyman Pasha, with the women, guns, &c., said to amount to about 4,000 men.

I inclose you copies of the directions I issued before leaving Jaffa in the "Vesuvius" on the 16th instant, to the different ships on the coast, by which you will see that the remainder of the marines and sappers have been taken from Acre by the "Hazard," and the whole of the marine artillery at Sidon are at this moment embarking on board the "Magicienne" for passage to Marmorice, the "Hecate" having communicated with her in passing Sidon this morning.

We brought up in the "Vesuvius" all the marine detachment from Jaffa, which (with those from Acre per "Hazard") are on board the "Benbow," and Lieutenant-Colonel Colquhoun's party of guns and artillerymen, which have been landed at Beyrout. The "Hecate" has brought up Lieutenant-Colonel Higgins's guns and artillerymen, together with the commissariat and head-quarters of the British, which, as well as that of the Turkish army, is now established at Beyrout.

In concluding the anxious duties which you have done me the honour to entrust to me, I gladly avail myself of the privilege, as senior officer, to report to you the satisfaction which I have derived from the exertions of every ship serving under my orders throughout the dead of winter on an exposed and most dangerous coast; and to the captains of the "Dido," "Magicienne," "Hazard, "Vesuvius," and "Hecate," my thanks are justly due for their unremitting vigilance and co-operation.

To Captain Thomas Henderson of the "Vesuvius" has fallen the heaviest share of the work, and to no better workman could it have been given.

You are aware, Sir, of his generous attempt to succour the "Zebra" in the gale of the 2nd of December, since which he has repeatedly effected personal communication with the army of Jaffa and Gaza at times when many would have deemed it impossible.

Nor can I refrain from stating to you that the efficient order and strict discipline maintained by Commander Stopford with the crew of the stranded "Zebra" entitle him to your commendation.

My former letters informed you of the pleasing confidence which subsisted between the late Brigadier-General Michell and myself. In his successor, Colonel Bridgeman, I have found precisely the same anxious wish that we should act cordially together, accompanied by the same invariable personal kindness and attention.

I send the "Vesuvius" direct to you with the despatches from the different Authorities, together with a letter from Colonel Bridgeman, requesting me so to do, and I shall take duplicates from him to Sir John Ommaney at Marmorice, to which place it is my intention to proceed with "Magicienne" and "Hazard" as soon as possible, leaving the "Hecate" here at the disposal of Colonel Bridgeman.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) HOUSTON STEWART,

Captain and Senior Officer on the Coast of Syria.

P.S.—Permit me to add that Lieutenant Loring of the "Carysfort," who was sent up by Commodore Sir Charles Napier to accompany Mehemet Ali's Envoy and to see Ibrahim Pasha out of Syria, endured much personal fatigue in endeavouring to find Ibrahim, and has most carefully superintended the embarkation, remaining at Gaza for that purpose.

Sub-Inclosure 2 in Inclosure 1 in No. 173.

Colonel Bridgeman to Admiral Stopford.

British Head Quarters, Jaffa,
February 19, 1841.

Sir,

IN my last despatch, I informed your Excellency that the Egyptian forces at Gaza had commenced their march towards Egypt, and I have now the satisfaction of reporting to you their final evacuation of Syria. The inclosed statement of Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson, who has superintended this evacuation from its commencement, will inform your Excellency of the numbers which have retired by land as well as by sea.

On the 5th instant I proceeded to Gaza, returning here on the 10th, and personally assured myself, in my interviews with Ibrahim Pasha, that he was no less desirous to hasten than we were to induce his departure; indeed, he was then only awaiting the arrival of transports and the return of two steamers to embark the remainder of his troops, and to take also his own passage; 1,000 Regular Cavalry and some Irregular Horse were the only mounted force remaining, and these would proceed by land. As Captain Stewart is about to return to Marmorice, and I believe thence eventually to Malta, I will not trespass upon your Excellency's time by entering into more detailed statements; I would only observe, that the Convention has been carried on, since I last had the honour of writing to you, with perfect good faith on both sides, and that Turkish and Egyptian Authorities have evinced all possible reliance upon British mediation, and acquiesced in all our proposals and arrangements.

I feel much bound to the Seraskier for his courtesy and attention to our suggestions.

The evacuation of the country by the Egyptians being thus happily in progress, I considered that I might with prudence and safety acquiesce in Captain Stewart's proposition for the embarkation of the battalion of the Royal Marines.

The portion of that force stationed at Acre, with the exception of Lieutenant-Colonel Mc Callum, one other officer, and a small detachment as a guard over the stores, embarked in the "Vesuvius," on the 3rd instant; and the same vessel removed, on the 16th instant, the detachment which has been stationed at this place; whilst Her Majesty's ship "Hazard," calling at Acre, will convey from thence to Marmorice Lieutenant-Colonel Mc Callum, the officer and party remaining there.

Captain Stewart has also so especially urged me to consent to the withdrawal of the Royal Marine Artillery from Sidon, that I have assented to their embarkation in Her Majesty's ship "Magicienne," and I beg to refer your Excellency to our correspondence on the subject.

It is impossible for me to express how really grateful I am for the able advice, assistance, and support which Captain Stewart has afforded me, and I could not but sincerely regret his departure; but he has, I fear, experienced much personal discomfort whilst living at our head-quarters, and it is selfish, therefore, in me to do so.

As the Seraskier and head-quarters of the Turkish army are returning to Beyrout, it is my intention to remove there also, and the whole of the Artillery have been provided with passages in the "Vesuvius" and "Hecate" war-steamers. The appearance of plague at this place amongst some Turkish soldiers is an additional reason for this movement.

I do not enter upon the question of the release of the Syrians who may have been serving with Ibrahim Pasha's army, as Captain Stewart will, of course, communicate the correspondence that has taken place on that subject with Commodore Sir Charles Napier.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) E. H. BRIDGEMAN,
Colonel Commanding British Forces in Syria.

Inclosure 2 in No. 173.

Admiral Stopford to R. More O'Ferrall, Esq.

"*Princess Charlotte,*" *Malta,*
March 1, 1841.

Sir,

I BEG to transmit herewith copies of despatches which I have just received from Commodore Sir Charles Napier, at Alexandria, on the subject of the evacuation of Syria, with the extract of the Hatti Sheriff and correspondence with Boghos Bey.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) ROBERT STOPFORD,
Admiral.

Sub-Inclosure 1 in Inclosure 2 in No. 173.

Commodore Napier to Admiral Stopford.

Her Majesty's Steamer "Stromboli,"
Alexandria, February 24, 1841.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that Lieutenant Loring joined me this morning from Gaza*. I inclose his report, by which you will observe that the whole of the Egyptian army have left Syria. Ibrahim Pasha landed at Damietta on the 19th, and proceeded to Cairo.

Lieutenant Loring has had a very fatiguing and dangerous duty to perform, and met with little or no assistance from the inhabitants of the country through which he passed.

The menacing position of the Turkish army obliged Ibrahim Pasha to go round the Dead Sea.

I have great reason to be satisfied with the whole of Lieutenant Loring's proceedings, and I beg to recommend him to their Lordships' consideration.

The Emirs and Sheiks are arrived at Cairo, and the Pasha has promised to send them to Syria on their arrival here.

A Turkish Commissioner arrived there on the 20th with the firman from the Porte, a translation of which I beg to inclose.

The Pasha has accepted the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Articles, and the part of the 6th which regards the construction of ships of war; he begs the Sublime Porte to modify the Article 3rd, as being oppressive to Egypt; Article 1st he considers to be inadmissible, as it will bring discord into his family and civil war at his death; he also objects to the part of Article 6th which relates to the appointment of officers, as tending to disorganize the army, and bring his authority into contempt: hitherto all officers have been appointed by him with the exception of Generals of Divisions, and a deviation from that system would endanger the discipline of the army.

His objections appeared to me so well founded, that I made no attempt to refute them.

A good many Syrians have come into Egypt with the army; I have demanded their immediate release, but the Pasha at present is so irritated that he would not comply till he heard from Constantinople; this will, however, blow over in a few days.

The Turkish Commissioner has sent to Constantinople for fresh instructions, and I do trust they will be more reasonable.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) CHARLES NAPIER,
Commodore.

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* Sub-Inclosure in No. 177.

Sub-Inclosure 2 in Inclosure 2 in No. 173.

Commodore Napier to Boghos Bey.

Her Majesty's Steamer "Stromboli,"
Alexandria, February 23, 1841.

Sir,

LIEUTENANT LORING, whom I charged with seeing the evacuation of Syria carried into effect, informs me, that the whole of the Syrian troops, instead of being left at Gaza as agreed upon between us, have retired into Egypt.

I have to request that the Syrians may be sent forthwith into Syria.

Your Excellency must be aware, if any impediment is thrown in the way, it will give the Sultan as well as the British Government a just cause of complaint, as under the Convention it was never contemplated that the Syrians should retire with the Egyptian Army. It is true that, in order to avoid a collision, I authorized the officer in Syria, if necessary, to permit the Syrians to retire with the Egyptians, with the understanding, that the evacuation being completed, they should be sent to their homes.

It now becomes a duty for your Excellency to carry this into execution without waiting for the final settlement of the question relative to the hereditary succession, and I have to request your Excellency will give me a reply that I may forward it to the British Government by the "Liverpool," which sails to-morrow at noon.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) CHARLES NAPIER,
Commodore.

Sub-Inclosure 3 in Inclosure 2 in No. 173.

Boghos Bey to Commodore Napier.

Monsieur le Commodore, *Alexandrie, le* 24 *Février*, 1841.

JE m'empresse d'accuser la réception de votre lettre du 23 courant, reçue hier dans la nuit, concernant les soldats Syriens qui de Gaza ont poursuivi leur route avec les Egyptiens vers le Caire, lesquels vous m'écrivez devoir être renvoyés chez eux après leur arrivée.

Son Altesse le Viceroi vous a parlé dans son entretien de hier soir, que d'après l'intelligence eu avec Mazloum Bey, cela n'aurait pas été de rigueur ; néanmoins je puis vous assurer, M. le Commodore, que ces soldats ne tarderont pas à être renvoyés ; j'en prends l'engagement, connaissant les sentimens élevés de Son Altesse le Viceroi.

Recevez, &c.,
(Signé) BOGHOS JOUSSOUF.

(Translation.)

M. le Commodore, *Alexandria, February* 24, 1841.

I HASTEN to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd instant, received last night, concerning the Syrian soldiers who from Gaza have continued their route with the Egyptians towards Cairo, whom you write to me ought on their arrival to be sent back to their homes.

His Highness the Viceroy told you in his conversation yesterday evening, that according to the understanding with Mazloum Bey, that would not have been absolutely necessary ; nevertheless, I can assure you, M. le Commodore, that those soldiers shall be sent back without delay ; I engage that this shall be the case, knowing the exalted sentiments of his Highness the Viceroy.

Receive, &c.,
(Signed) BOGHOS JOUSSOUF.

Sub-Inclosure 4 in Inclosure 2 in No. 173.

Extract from the Hatti Sheriff conceding the Hereditary Government of Egypt.

L'EGYPTE, dans ses anciennes limites, vous est accordée à vous et à vos descendans mâles aux conditions suivantes :—

1°. Lorsqu'il y aura décès du titulaire, la Porte choisira parmi ses héritiers celui qui lui conviendra le mieux, lequel sera appelé à Constantinople pour recevoir l'investiture. La présente concession n'entraîne aucune préséance sur les autres Vizirs, et le Gouverneur en faveur duquel elle est faite ne jouira quant au titre et aux autres prérogatives que des avantages qui lui sont attribués.

2°. Le Hatti Chérif de Gulhané et les autres lois fondamentales de l'Empire, ainsi que les traités existans ou à venir avec les Puissances étrangères, seront exécutés en Egypte.

3°. Tous les impôts et tous les revenus de l'Egypte seront perçus au nom du Sultan; et comme les Egyptiens font partie des sujets du Grand Seigneur, les règles adoptés dans le reste de l'Empire pour le recouvrement de l'impôt, seront suivies en Egypte. Afin que le Sultan soit bien assuré que le peuple n'est pas pressuré, un quart des revenus bruts provenant soit des douanes, soit des dîmes, ou de tous autres droits, appartiendra au Sultan et tiendra lieu de tribut; les trois autres quarts seront affectés à l'acquittement des frais de recouvrement et des dépenses concernant l'administration intérieure, l'entretien des troupes, la maison du Viceroi, et les redevances en nature attribuées chaque année aux Villes Saintes. Les dispositions précédentes seront appliquées à dater du premier jour de l'année 1257 (aujourd'hui) pour avoir leur exécution pendant cinq ans, lequel terme expiré, il sera avisé selon les circonstances et l'état de l'Egypte. Pour que les impôts ne soient pas perçus d'une manière arbitraire et préjudicielle au peuple, le Sultan ayant contracté l'obligation de veiller aux intérêts de ses sujets, juge que la présence d'un contrôleur des finances est nécessaire en Egypte; vous vous conformerez à l'ordre qui vous sera transmis ultérieurement à ce sujet.

4°. Il doit être pris à Constantinople des mesures pour que les monnaies soient frappées au même type, comme aussi à un titre et à un poids en rapport avec leur valeur; les monnaies frappées en Egypte au nom du Sultan devront l'être d'après le taux adopté.

5°. Pendant la paix, l'Egypte peut se garder avec 18,000 soldats; ce nombre ne sera pas dépassé; et comme les forces de terre et de mer de l'Egypte sont à la disposition de l'Empire, la Porte en cas de guerre déterminera l'augmentation qui doit leur être donnée. Dans les autres parties de l'Empire, après un service de cinq ans le soldat est libre; cette règle sera exécutée en Egypte. En conséquence, sur l'armée existante on choisira, et d'après le tems de service, 20,000 hommes, dont 18,000 serviront en Egypte, et 2,000 seront envoyés à Constantinople. Tous les ans il sera procédé par la voie du sort, conformément aux règles de l'équité et proportionnellement à la population de chaque localité, au recrutement de 4,000 hommes, dont 3,600 seront incorporés dans les troupes de l'Egypte, et 400 seront dirigés sur Constantinople, le tout en remplacement des congédiés. Les soldats libérés du service ne pourront pas être rappelés sous les armes. Il est possible que, pour l'étoffe, les troupes ne puissent pas être habillées en Egypte comme elles le sont à Constantinople, mais pour la forme des vêtemens, pour les insignes et les drapeaux, elles seront entièrement semblables. Il en est de même pour les troupes de mer.

6°. Le Viceroi d'Egypte ne peut donner des grades que jusqu'à celui de Solkal Aghassi (Adjutant-Major); pour les grades supérieurs, ils devront être demandés à la Sublime Porte.

Il ne pourra pas construire de nouveaux bâtimens de guerre sans l'autorisation de la Porte.

La conservation de l'hérédité étant attachée à l'exécution de chacune de ces dispositions fondamentales, en cas de non exécution la concession de l'hérédité sera révoquée.

(Translation.)

EGYPT within its ancient limits is granted to you and to your male descendants on the following conditions:

1. When there shall be a decease of the incumbent, the Porte shall select among his heirs the person who shall best suit it, who will be summoned to Constantinople to receive the investiture. The present concession does not involve any precedence over the other Viziers, and the Governor in whose favour it is made shall, as regards the title and the other prerogatives, only enjoy the advantages which are assigned to him.

2°. The Hatti Sheriff of Gulhané, and the other fundamental laws of the empire, as likewise the treaties present or future with foreign Powers, shall be executed in Egypt.

3°. All the duties and all the revenues of Egypt shall be collected in the name of the Sultan; and as the Egyptians form a portion of the subjects of the Grand Signior, the rules adopted in the rest of the empire for the collection of the taxes shall be observed in Egypt. In order that the Sultan may be well assured that the people are not over-taxed, a fourth part of the gross revenue arising either from customs-duties, tenths, or all other duties, shall appertain to the Sultan, and be in the place of tribute; the other three fourths shall be applied to the liquidation of the charges of collection and of the expences concerning the internal administration, the maintenance of the troops, the household of the Viceroy, and the contributions in kind allotted every year to the Holy Cities. The preceding arrangements shall take effect from the first day of the year 1257 (the present time), and be carried into execution for five years, at the expiration of which term, provision will be made according to the circumstances and condition of Egypt. In order that the duties may not be levied arbitrarily and in a manner prejudicial to the people, the Sultan having undertaken to watch over the interests of his subjects, considers that the presence of a comptroller of finance is necessary in Egypt: you will conform yourself to the order which shall hereafter be sent to you on this subject.

4°. Measures are about to be taken at Constantinople in order that the money may be coined of the same die, as likewise of the denomination and weight corresponding with its value; the money coined in Egypt in the name of the Sultan must be so at the rate adopted.

5°. During peace, Egypt can be protected by 18,000 soldiers; this number shall not be exceeded; and as the land and sea forces of Egypt are at the disposal of the empire, the Porte, in case of war, will fix the augmentation which it is requisite to give to them. In the other parts of the empire, the soldier, after a service of five years, is free; this rule shall be enforced in Egypt. Consequently, there shall be chosen from the existing army, and according to the periods of service, 20,000 men, of whom 18,000 shall serve in Egypt, and 2,000 shall be sent to Constantinople. Every year a ballot shall be had, in conformity with the rules of equity and in proportion to the population of each district, for the levy of 4,000 men, of whom 3,600 shall be incorporated into the troops of Egypt, and 400 shall be sent to Constantinople, the whole to replace those who are discharged. The soldiers liberated from service shall not be reenlisted. It is possible that as regards the material, the troops cannot be clad in Egypt as they are at Constantinople, but as regards the shape of the clothing, the badges, and the standards, they shall be wholly alike. The same is the case with regard to the naval forces.

6°. The Viceroy of Egypt cannot confer ranks except up to that of Solkal-Aghassi (adjutant-major); as regards the superior ranks, they must be applied for to the Sublime Porte.

New ships of war shall not be built without the permission of the Porte.

The continuance of the hereditary succession being subject to the execution of each of these fundamental dispositions, in case of non-execution, the concession of hereditary succession will be revoked.

No. 174.

The Plenipotentiaries of the Four Powers to Chekib Effendi.

Londres, le 13 *Mars*, 1841.

LES Soussignés, Plénipotentiaires des Cours d'Autriche, de la Grande Bretagne, de Prusse, et de Russie, ont eu l'honneur de recevoir la Note en date du 11 de ce mois, par laquelle son Excellence Chékib Effendi, Ambassadeur Extraordinaire de la Sublime Porte Ottomane, a bien voulu leur annoncer, qu'en conséquence des preuves que Méhémet Ali Pacha a données de sa soumission, Sa Hautesse vient d'accomplir gracieusement sa promesse en le réintégrant sous certaines conditions au poste du Gouvernement de l'Egypte, avec hérédité.

En notifiant cette détermination aux Plénipotentiaires des Quatre Cours Alliées, M. l'Ambassadeur Ottoman a bien voulu leur communiquer en même tems les firmans émanés à cet effet le 13 Février, 1841, ainsi que la Note adressée le même jour par son Excellence Réchid Pacha aux Représentans des Quatre Cours à Constantinople, par laquelle la Sublime Porte annonce que la Question d'Egypte se trouve terminée.

Les Soussignés se font un devoir d'exprimer à M. l'Ambassadeur Ottoman, au nom de leurs Cours, la vive satisfaction que leur a fait éprouver cet événement, qui, en amenant la crise du Levant à une solution définitive, réalise pleinement les intentions bienveillantes qui ont servi de guide à la politique des Cours signataires de la Convention du 15 Juillet.

Dans cet état des choses, les Quatre Cours ont répondu d'avance au désir que la Porte a exprimé de voir leurs Consuls retourner à Alexandrie; et le Protocole signé à Londres le 5 de ce mois a déjà invité les Représentans des Quatre Puissances à s'entendre avec la Porte, pour fixer le moment où les dits agens devront simultanément retourner en Egypte.

Quant aux détails qui concernent l'administration intérieure de cette province, et auxquels se réfèrent les firmans émanés le 13 Février, les Soussignés viennent d'être informés d'Alexandrie, en date du 24 du même mois, que la majeure partie de ces points se trouve déjà réglée.

En effet, Méhémet Ali a reconnu, sans réserve aucune, que tous les traités et toutes les lois de l'Empire devront s'appliquer à l'Egypte comme à toute autre province de cet Empire; il a souscrit aux ordres qui lui ont été adressés par la Sublime Porte pour régler en Egypte le systême monétaire, la levée, le service, et l'uniforme des troupes, et la construction des bâtimens de guerre; il a replacé sous les ordres de Sa Hautesse le Sultan, les forces de terre et de mer de l'Egypte, dont la Sublime Porte elle-même vient de déterminer le nombre; en un mot, il se trouve aujourd'hui légalement placé envers la Sublime Porte dans la situation d'un sujet, Gouverneur délégué d'une province faisant partie intégrante de l'Empire Ottoman.

En partant de ce principe, que la Convention du 15 Juillet était destinée à rétablir, c'est à l'autorité seule du Sultan, qu'il appartient aujourd'hui de résoudre les questions d'administration intérieure qui restent encore à régler, et de prendre en considération les vœux que Méhémet Ali a soumis à ce sujet à la décision de Sa Hautesse.

Sans entrer à cet égard dans un examen qui ne serait point de leur ressort, les Soussignés ne peuvent se référer qu'aux principes énoncés dans la Note Collective qu'ils ont eu l'honneur d'adresser à M. l'Ambassadeur Ottoman sous la date du 30 Janvier.

Ces principes, basés sur les conditions de l'Acte Séparé de la Convention du 15 Juillet, serviront de règle aux explications amicales que les Représentans des Quatre Cours pourraient encore être appelés à offrir à la Sublime Porte.

Les Soussignés ont la ferme assurance que ces explications, conçues dans un sincère esprit de conciliation, trouveraient auprès du Sultan le même accueil qu'il n'a cessé de faire aux conseils déjà donnés par ses Alliés,—conseils désintéressés et sincères que Sa Hautesse a justement

appréciés, lorsqu'elle a accompli, par un acte de clémence, une œuvre de pacification que ses Alliés l'avaient loyalement aidé à assurer.

Les Soussignés, &c., &c.,

ESTERHAZY. NEUMANN.
PALMERSTON.
BULOW.
BRUNNOW.

(Translation.)

London, March 13, 1841.

THE Undersigned, Plenipotentiaries of the Courts of Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia, have had the honour to receive the note dated the 11th of this month, by which his Excellency Chekib Effendi, Ambassador Extraordinary of the Sublime Ottoman Porte, has had the goodness to announce to them that in consequence of the proofs which Mehemet Ali has given of his submission, His Highness has graciously fulfilled his promise by reinstating him, under certain conditions, in the post of the Government of Egypt, with hereditary succession.

In notifying this determination to the Plenipotentiaries of the Four Allied Courts, the Ottoman Ambassador has had the goodness to communicate to them at the same time the firmans issued to this effect on the 13th of February, 1841, as well as the note addressed the same day by his Excellency Rechid Pasha to the Representatives of the Four Courts at Constantinople, by which the Sublime Porte announces that the question of Egypt is ended.

The Undersigned make it their duty to express to the Ottoman Ambassador, in the name of their Courts, the lively satisfaction which has been occasioned to them by this event, which, by bringing the crisis of the Levant to a definitive solution, fully realizes the benevolent intentions which have guided the policy of the Courts who signed the Convention of the 15th of July.

In this state of things, the Four Courts have replied by anticipation to the desire expressed by the Porte to see their Consuls return to Alexandria; and the Protocol signed at London on the 5th of this month has already requested the Representatives of the Four Powers to come to an understanding with the Porte, in order to fix the period when the said agents should simultaneously return to Egypt.

With regard to the details concerning the internal administration of that province, and to which the firmans issued on the 13th of February relate, the Undersigned have just been informed from Alexandria, under date the 24th of the same month, that the greater part of these points are already settled.

In fact, Mehemet Ali has admitted, without any reserve, that all the treaties and all the laws of the empire should apply to Egypt as to every other province of that Empire; he has acceded to the orders addressed to him by the Sublime Porte for the regulation in Egypt of the monetary system, the conscription, the service and the uniform of the troops, and the building of ships of war; he has replaced under the orders of His Highness the Sultan the land and sea forces of Egypt, of which the Sublime Porte has itself now fixed the number; in a word, he is at the present moment legally placed towards the Porte in the situation of a subject, the delegated Governor of a province constituting an integral part of the Ottoman Empire.

Setting out from this principle, which it was the object of the Convention of the 15th of July to re-establish, it appertains at present to the authority of the Sultan alone to settle the questions of internal administration which still remain to be adjusted, and to take into consideration the wishes which Mehemet Ali has submitted on this matter to His Highness's decision.

Without entering in this respect into an inquiry which would not be within their competence, the Undersigned can only refer to the principles expressed in the Collective Note which they had the honour to address to the Ottoman Ambassador on the 30th of January.

Those principles, founded on the conditions of the Separate Act of the Convention of the 15th of July, will serve as a rule for the friendly explanations which the Representatives of the Four Courts might still be called upon to offer to the Sublime Porte.

The Undersigned are fully assured that these explanations, conceived in a sincere spirit of conciliation, would be received by the Sultan in the same manner in which he has constantly received the advice already given by his Allies,—advice disinterested and sincere, which His Highness has justly appreciated, when he accomplished, by an act of clemency, a work of pacification which his Allies had frankly aided him in effecting.

The Undersigned, &c.,

(Signed) ESTERHAZY. NEUMANN.
PALMERSTON.
BULOW.
BRUNNOW.

No. 175.

Sir John Barrow to Lord Leveson.

My Lord, *Admiralty, March* 13, 1841.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, to send you herewith, for the information of Viscount Palmerston, copies of a letter from Admiral the Honourable Sir Robert Stopford, dated the 1st of March last, with its several inclosures, detailing more particularly the proceedings attending the evacuation of Syria by the Egyptian troops.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN BARROW.

Inclosure 1 in No. 175.

Admiral Stopford to R. More O'Ferrall, Esq.

Sir, "*Princess Charlotte,*" *Malta, March* 1, 1841.

WITH reference to my letters of the 19th and 28th ultimo, transmitting copies of Captain Stewart's despatches from Jaffa and Beyrout, the latter comunicating the entire evacuation of Syria by the Egyptian army, I beg leave now to forward the copies of letters and other documents, detailing more particularly the proceedings which latterly attended that result.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) ROBERT STOPFORD,
Admiral.

Sub-Inclosure 1 in No. 175.

Captain Houston Stewart to Admiral Stopford.

British Head Quarters, Jaffa,

Sir, *January* 17, 1841.

MY letter of the 10th instant, forwarded by "Gorgon," would inform you of Brigadier-General Michell's and my own determination to confine ourselves strictly to precautionary and defensive operations. It will therefore be necessary to explain the circumstances attending a late advance of the Turkish troops upon Gaza, and for this purpose I transmit herewith copies of a letter which I addressed to General Jochmus* immediately after our last conference on the 12th instant, also of a note which I received from General Michell, after he had reached Ramla, and my reply to that note, sent by a staff officer to General Michell at Ashdod.

General Michell expressed in the most decided and unequivocal

* N.B. Owing to General Jochmus's immediate departure, he did not receive my letter until his return.

terms his disapprobation of the expedition. We both appealed to the Seraskier, who refused to incur the responsibility of putting his written veto on the advance, without which General Jochmus declared he should persevere, and accordingly he left Jaffa for Ramla within an hour. General Michell then felt that he was in a peculiarly awkward position, but with the true spirit of an English soldier, determined to accompany and render every assistance in his power to the Turkish Generals.

I also felt myself bound, notwithstanding my protest, to go down with the "Vesuvius" and "Hecate," and make a demonstration on the coast, especially as I thought I might render material assistance, by either threatening a descent on the Egyptians' rear to the southward of Gaza, by which their retreat on El-Arish would be endangered, or, in case of the Turks retreating, protecting with the great guns that hazardous operation.

At 4 A.M. of Friday the 15th, we weighed in the "Vesuvius" and "Hecate," and proceeded as far as Ascalon, when the weather became so thick, and blew so hard, with a heavy increasing sea, that after showing ourselves again off Jaffa, I requested Captain Henderson to run out fifteen or twenty miles for an offing, bank up the fires, and put the vessels under canvass. At 2 A.M. on the 16th, it being then more moderate, we bore up, and at daylight we put the steam on and steered towards Ascalon, but on getting sight of the beach, the surf was so excessive as to preclude all hope of being able to communicate with the shore for many hours to come. We therefore unwillingly returned off Jaffa, where we were not able to effect a landing until sunset, when I found General Michell just returned, having preceded the returning Turkish troops. The Seraskier had reached Jaffa about two hours previous to General Michell.

I ought to have stated, that by General Michell's desire, twenty-five marines were embarked on board the "Vesuvius" under command of Lieutenant Anderson, and a like number on board the "Hecate;" these have all since been disembarked here.

Brigadier-General Michell will send you an account of what occurred. It would appear that the state of the weather was such as to make it advisable, in General Jochmus's opinion, to return. There was a smart skirmishing affair with a part of the enemy's cavalry which were on a reconnoissance, in which, I hear from every quarter that the English staff officers were most forward and dashing. Colonel Rose, Assistant Adjutant General, received two wounds, but is rapidly recovering. Mr. Frederick Crawford, Midshipman of the "Benbow," zealously emulated the spirit and daring of the military officers.

Since writing the above, Lieutenant Loring of the "Carysfort," accompanied by Hamid Bey, arrived from Alexandria, bringing me despatches from Commodore Sir C. Napier. These officers, accompanied by Major Wilbraham, were immediately forwarded on to Jerusalem in search of Ibrahim Pasha, and it was my intention at once to have despatched the "Vesuvius" to Marmorice, touching at Acre, Sidon, and Beyrout, for invalids; but news has just reached the Seraskier, stating that Ibrahim Pasha was at Jericho, and threatening the troops under Rechid Pasha at Jerusalem.

In such circumstances General Michell deems it more prudent to keep both the steam-vessels off this place, until we shall have been able to ascertain how Ibrahim Pasha receives his father's orders to evacuate Syria, and the letters which we have written to him, anxiously recommending to him to second our sincere desire to avoid all unhappy collisions.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) HOUSTON STEWART,

Captain and Senior Officer on the Coast of Syria

Sub-Inclosure 2 in No. 175.

Captain Houston Stewart to General Jochmus.

British Head-Quarters, Jaffa,
January 12, 1841, 3 P.M.

Sir,

IN order that there may be no misapprehension on the subject of our Conferences yesterday and to-day, I think it right to put the particulars into writing.

When Rechid Pasha came to General Michell and myself yesterday morning, he stated that Ibrahim Pasha's army being now fairly entered on the Desert, there could be no reason for the 3,000 Egyptian men quartered at Gaza, being permitted to remain there, and asked us if we would concur in an advance which should have the effect of ridding the Syrian country of the plunderers. General Michell and I both said that our instructions being to facilitate the evacuation of Syria by the Egyptians, there could be no political reason to prevent our co-operation, and that, provided the forces advanced were so great as to make resistance hopeless, and certain information received of Ibrahim Pasha having advanced south of any road by which he could march upon Gaza, there appeared, to be none of a military nature.

Very shortly after this, Rechid Pasha returned with your Excellency, when the same points were distinctly stated, and you expressed your conviction of the impossibility of Ibrahim's coming upon Gaza; that we should advance close to it, and you would send notice to the Egyptian troops, that they might have twenty-four hours to retreat, after which you would attack and occupy Gaza. Rechid Pasha said he would go immediately to Jerusalem, from whence he would write positive information upon which we might safely rely; that we should not move from this place until we received his communications. After his departure, General Michell and I paid your Excellency two visits, in which we found out, on examination of maps and Egyptian officers who had deserted from Gaza, that it was not only possible but very probable that Ibrahim might come on Gaza by the end of the Dead Sea, and that he might reach it within two days of the time in which your troops could. You then avowed that your aim was not to facilitate his retreat, but to annihilate his army, and prevent a single Egyptian getting back to his own country.

The Seraskier Zacharias Pasha, your Excellency, General Michell, and myself had a meeting this forenoon, at which you stated it to be your determination to advance; that you had orders for the troops at Jerusalem to make a combined movement on Gaza with those from Ramla; and that 6,000 men and 1,400 cavalry (900 of them being irregular), with twenty-four guns, would attack Gaza, destroy the provisions, and immediately retire, leaving two battalions in the place; that if Ibrahim Pasha appeared you would retire, and that, if he pressed you, you could retreat on the mountains near Jerusalem. There appeared to General Michell and to me such an evident and imminent hazard in this operation, and so inadequate an object to be gained, so much evil would result from a retrograde movement, such disaster from defeat, that I declared I could be no party to it, and that so long as it was not ascertained beyond doubt that Ibrahim Pasha was not coming on Gaza, I could not afford any naval co-operation.

It is with sincere pain that I have come to this resolution; your Excellency has had no reason to doubt the hearty co-operation hitherto of Her Britannic Majesty's naval forces in promoting the Sultan's cause; but I should be betraying my trust, and acting in direct opposition to my orders, if I concurred in any operations which had for their object the prevention or suspension of Ibrahim Pasha's evacuation of Syria.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) HOUSTON STEWART,

Captain and Senior Officer commanding Her Britannic Majesty's ships and vessels on the Coast of Syria.

Sub-Inclosure 3 in No. 175.

General Michell to Captain Houston Stewart.

My dear Commodore, *Ramla, January* 13, *Noon.*

I HAVE found Seraskier, Jochmus, Wood, &c., all halted here. I have a letter from Napier at Jerusalem; Rechid Pasha moves with the Jerusalem battalions on to-morrow morning the 14th. The troops here move to-morrow also for Ashdod (or Ichdod), half way to Gaza: thus it will be better for you not to approach that part of the coast till the evening of to-morrow the 14th or the morning of the 15th. Rose goes with this to Jaffa, so I write; but we have not yet had a satisfactory conference, and I hope to be able to write to you again by Major Robe, and to give more full details as to our probable proceedings, and as to the most effectual support to be given to them by your appearance on the coast.

Mr. Wood is prepared to give us in writing very powerful arguments in favour of a continuance of active offensive operations. His letter from Lord Ponsonby, after Captain Fanshawe's arrival at Constantinople, is strong upon the subject.

In case there should be no other letter from me you may consider that we shall approach Gaza on the 15th, and possibly early. Your demonstration may be made accordingly north and south of it, as you proposed, to-morrow afternoon and Friday morning.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) EDWARD MICHELL.

P.S.—General Jochmus thinks he may be able to attack Gaza on Friday afternoon, therefore your demonstration should be made as I have stated. Take a few artillerymen if you like.

Sub-Inclosure 4 in No. 175.

Captain Houston Stewart to General Michell.

Jaffa, January 14, 1841,

(Extract.) *Thursday,* 10 A.M.

THE weather has changed, as I expected, with the phase of the moon, which quarters this day, but I hope the wind will not get so far to the westward as to make it impossible to communicate with you from the steam-vessels off Gaza. Our starting too soon might have one of two effects: either it might induce the Egyptians to retire at once if they have notice of your advance, and despair of Ibrahim Pasha's, or it might cause them to make preparations to strengthen themselves within Gaza in the hope of giving Ibrahim time to come up. In this view I think it might be more wise not to show the steamers off the coast until a few hours before the advance of General Jochmus, and therefore I shall not leave this till 4 A.M. to-morrow (Friday), and, weather permitting, shall be off Gaza and a little below it by 8 A.M., before which time I deem it impossible for the Turkish troops to be in a position to attack Gaza. Notwithstanding all Mr. Wood would say or write, I am still of opinion that we are bound strictly and simply to such measures as tend to facilitate and not to embarrass the Egyptian army's retreat out of Syria.

We know Lord Palmerston's and the British Government's wishes and orders; Lord Ponsonby's orders must with us be subordinate to Lord Palmerston's; and when Fanshawe reached and left Constantinople, Lord Ponsonby did not know that the British Government had actually approved of Napier's Convention with the sole exception of the hereditary part of it, which in Mehemet Ali's letter of submission is not insisted on. We have promised the Admiral that we will act strictly on precautionary and defensive principles.

If Ibrahim Pasha is coming to Gaza, things will be very serious. If, on the contrary, he is really going the other road, then it is a matter of no importance, and assumes the light in which it was first presented to us by Rechid Pasha and Jochmus, to which we assented.

Sub-Inclosure 5 in No. 175.

Brigadier-General Michell to Admiral Stopford.

My dear Sir, *Jaffa, January* 17, 1841.

KNOWING that Captain Stewart writes to you fully upon the late events on this part of the coast, I think it unnecessary to trouble you with details, and shall, therefore, merely forward a copy of a letter* which General Jochmus has given me, as the substance of what he has to communicate to you, and add some observations of my own.

The movement upon Gaza seemed to be for a time abandoned, but on the 11th of January, General Jochmus again proposed it, and at length persuaded the new Seraskier, and his influential staff officer and adviser, Rechid Pasha, to adopt his views upon the subject. For my own part, I was more than ever opposed to the measure, influenced in particular by your last letters, but also by military reasons. The attack was, however, resolved on, and I could not do otherwise than accompany the troops to witness the results.

My own natural feelings prompted this determination, and it was in fact fully justified, if not enjoined, by a paragraph in Lord Palmerston's instructions to Sir Charles Smith, with which you are acquainted.

Bad weather, delay in the march of the co-operating battalions from Jerusalem, the non-arrival of the expected cavalry from the mountains, all these being circumstances which I had more or less anticipated, caused the operation to be abandoned.

In the mean time, a body of Egyptian cavalry having made an attack upon a village which we occupied, the skirmish of which General Jochmus makes mention, occurred on the 15th, near Ascalon, and the result was decidedly advantageous and creditable to the Turkish troops.

The English staff-officers were forward, conspicuous, and useful on the occasion. Colonel Rose, after displaying much personal prowess on the occasion, received two wounds, which at first appeared to me of a serious nature, but I am happy to say he is now doing well, and there is no doubt of his speedy recovery.

I must also state to you that much praise is due to Mr. Frederick Crawford, Midshipman of Her Majesty's ship "Benbow," who by Captain Stewart's permission accompanied me as an extra aide-de-camp, and who throughout the movements, but more particularly in the affair of the 15th, distinguished himself by his zeal, activity, intelligence, and courage.

The troops had scarcely returned to Jaffa when Lieutenant Loring of Her Majesty's ship "Carysfort," arrived in company with an Egyptian officer, bringing despatches from Commodore Sir Charles Napier, which announced the conclusion of his Treaty with Mehemet Ali, and also orders from the now re-instated Pasha of Egypt to his son, for the immediate evacuation of Syria.

These officers were immediately provided with horses and escort and sent off to Jerusalem, accompanied by a staff-officer of the Seraskier, and by Major Wilbraham, one of the English Adjutant-Generals under my command, with instructions and credentials to proceed to the head-quarters of the Egyptian Army; and in the meantime it has been directed that the Turkish troops shall be limited to purely defensive and protective operations.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) EDWARD MICHELL.

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* Sub-Inclosure 32 in No. 175.

Sub-Inclosure 6 in No. 175.

Colonel Bridgeman to Admiral Stopford.

Head-Quarters, Jaffa,
January 26, 1841.

Sir,

WITH the deepest and most unfeigned sorrow I have to communicate to your Excellency the death of Brigadier-General Michell. This afflicting event took place at Jaffa on Sunday last, the 24th instant, after an illness of four days.

Constant exposure to the rain, during the operations upon Gaza, induced fever, and his constitution, which had been much broken by many severe wounds, was unable to withstand the weakening and prostrating effects of the disease.

The command of the British troops in Syria has devolved therefore upon me, as the senior officer, and incompetent as I may be to its very many responsible duties, I have the satisfaction of believing that your Excellency will permit me to profit by your advice and counsel, and that whilst I am in immediate communication with Captain Houston Stewart, I shall have the advantage of his sound judgment and experience.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. H. BRIDGEMAN,
Colonel.

Sub-Inclosure 7 in No. 175.

Captain Houston Stewart to Admiral Stopford.

British Head Quarters, Jaffa,
January 23, 1841.

(Extract.)

I HAD the honour to receive your letters of the 15th and 16th Instant, yesterday, the "Cyclops" having put them on shore at Acre, from whence they have been forwarded by a courier. Both General Michell and I regretted that Captain Austin conceived he had not time to run down here in the terms of general directions left at Beyrout, as his immediate return from hence to Marmorice would have conveyed to you and to Government the latest intelligence.

My letter of the 17th instant, which goes by this conveyance, will acquaint you with the state of affairs up to that date, and I now beg to transmit to you copies of the letters addressed by Brigadier-General Michell and myself to Ibrahim Pasha, and to the Egyptian Commanding Officer at Gaza, together with the instructions issued to the respective officers sent to Ibrahim Pasha, to accompany Lieutenant-General Jochmus, and to Gaza. No instructions for the Turkish authorities had reached them either from Alexandria or Constantinople.

Fortunately these instructions reached the Seraskier, *viâ* Beyrout, two days after the receipt of Commodore Sir Charles Napier's letter from Alexandria. General Michell and myself obtained a positive assurance that no act of hostility should take place; that a British officer should accompany General Jochmus; and Omar Pasha, with Captain Arbuthnot, Royal Navy, should proceed in search of Ibrahim Pasha, and assure themselves, with the least possible delay, that Ibrahim Pasha would obey his father's orders. Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson, Royal Engineers, was sent off to Gaza as Conservator of the Peace, and to urge the immediate departure of some of the Egyptian troops from thence towards Egypt. I inclose copies of the instructions issued to all these officers, as well as of protests which Lieutenant-General Jochmus and Mr. Wood thought proper to write to the Seraskier, after the resolution of the Council of War which had been held.

The Memoranda to the officers are signed by me for General Michell,

by his own express desire, as I regret to say, he was too ill to write, and Colonel Bridgeman also so ill as to be confined to bed. General Michell went to bed complaining of fever and ague, after the termination of the Council of the 19th instant, and has not been well enough to rise yet, but every thing has been done by his desire and consent.

The fatigue and exposure incurred during the advance towards Gaza on the 14th, 15th, and 16th, have been the cause of his illness, and the numerous severe wounds which he received in former campaigns, make his bodily sufferings very great.

I only keep the "Dido" until I shall be enabled to communicate to you how Ibrahim Pasha receives the intelligence from Alexandria, when I will immediately despatch her: but from the want of information as to his exact position, and from the dangers of the road caused by tribes of wandering [Arabs], who attack friend or foe, it may be some time yet, ere any of the officers are enabled to send us satisfactory intelligence of their having found him.

Sub-Inclosure 8 in No. 175.

Brigadier-General Michell and Captain Houston Stewart to Ibrahim Pasha.

British Head Quarters,
Jaffa, January 17, 1841.

General,

WE have the satisfaction to inform your Excellency, that we have this day received instructions to permit the embarkation of the sick, the wounded, and the women and children of the Egyptian army, at Caiffa, or any other point of Syria, which may be more convenient to their present position; and further, that we are recommended to afford every facility for the evacuation of Syria by the army under your Excellency's command, in order that such evacuation may be effected with the least possible loss of life; and we beg to assure your Excellency of our cordial wish and desire that such measures may be adopted on both sides as may ensure the avoidance of any unhappy collisions; and we trust, that your Excellency, animated by the same feelings, will issue your orders in accordance with this principle.

(Signed) EDWARD MICHELL,
Brigadier-General commanding Her Britannic Majesty's Land Forces on the Coast of Syria.

(Signed) HOUSTON STEWART,
Captain of Her Britannic Majesty's ship "Benbow," and Senior Officer on the Coast of Syria.

Sub-Inclosure 9 in No. 175.

Brigadier-General Michell and Captain Houston Stewart to the Officer Commanding the Egyptian Troops at Gaza.

British Head Quarters,
Jaffa, January 17, 1841.

Sir,

WE have the honour to inform you, that we have received official instructions, to the effect that "Mehemet Ali having made his submission to the Porte, which has been accepted, his Highness is now re-instated in the Pashalic of Egypt;" and we are ordered to afford every facility for the evacuation of Syria by the Egyptian troops under the command of his Excellency, Ibrahim Pasha.

An Egyptian officer, sent by Mehemet Ali Pasha, accompanied by a Turkish and two English officers, go off from this place to-day, in search of Ibrahim Pasha, being the bearers of despatches from Mehemet Ali Pasha, requiring him immediately to withdraw, with all his troops, from Syria. We therefore most earnestly call upon you, most strictly to

abstain from every act which can tend to provoke any renewal of hostilities, and we promise you in return, that our Allies the Turks shall refrain from any aggression towards you. All plundering, and even foraging, must be strictly forbidden, otherwise we shall hold you responsible for the consequences, which in that case we should not have the power to control.

We have, &c.,
(Signed) EDWARD MICHELL,
Brigadier-General commanding the British Troops on the Coast of Syria.
(Signed) HOUSTON STEWART,
Senior Naval Officer on the Coast of Syria.

P.S.—The officers who proceed in search of Ibrahim Pasha, will go by Jerusalem, Jericho, and Izatt, but if you know of any more direct route by which letters might reach his Excellency, we request you will not lose a moment in forwarding to him copies of this and the other documents transmitted to you from hence.

Sub-Inclosure 10 in No. 175.

Memorandum for Colonel Colquhoun's guidance.

Jaffa, January 21, 1841.

THE Turkish General-in-Chief has declared solemnly that he has no wish whatever to deprive Ibrahim of his arms, baggage, or guns, and certainly will do nothing to render him desperate, or to provoke hostilities. You are required to accompany General Jochmus, on the part of General Michell and the British forces, to see that this declaration be acted up to, General Jochmus being bound to do nothing beyond what may be justly necessary for measures of precaution and defence. You will report proceedings as frequently as possible to General Michell.

It is proposed to invite Ibrahim Pasha to retire upon Egypt, *viâ* Gaza, (should he wish it,) in successive columns, none of which must exceed 3,000 men, he receiving the guarantee of the Seraskier, the General, and the Senior Naval Officer, that these columns shall not be molested in any way, so long as they themselves abstain from hostilities.

Should you observe any disposition on the part of the Officer commanding the Turkish troops to infringe on the above principles, you will advise him to abstain, and should he persist, you will formally protest against such disposition.

By desire of GENERAL MICHELL,
(Signed) HOUSTON STEWART.

Sub-Inclosure 11 in No. 175.

Memorandum for Captain Arbuthnot's guidance.

Jaffa, January 21, 1841.

THE Turkish General-in-Chief, Seraskier Zacharias Pasha, has declared solemnly that he has no wish whatever to deprive Ibrahim Pasha of his arms, baggage, or guns, and that he will certainly do nothing to render him desperate, or to provoke hostilities. You are required to accompany Omar Pasha to Ibrahim Pasha, and there propose to him to retire immediately from Syria, with the whole of his troops. You will endeavour to induce him to allow all the Syrian conscripts he may have with his army, to return to their country with their arms; and should he wish to retire by the way of Gaza, he must do so in successive columns of troops, not exceeding 3,000 men each, until every Egyptian shall have passed the frontier. The Seraskier, General Michell, and Captain Houston Stewart offer their guarantee that these columns shall not be in

any manner molested in their retreat, so long as they themselves abstain from hostilities. The women, children, sick, and wounded, and medical attendants, will be permitted to embark at any port of Syria which Ibrahim Pasha may deem most convenient. But no combatant will be allowed to embark unless he previously deliver up his arms. You are to understand, that the immediate evacuation of Syria by the whole of the Egyptian forces, is the main point, to which all others are secondary. You will communicate the result of your mission to me and to Captain Stewart, with the utmost possible dispatch, and especially as to the fact of whether Ibrahim Pasha intends to avail himself of the permission to embark his women and wounded, where, and about what time,—as the Egyptian steamer remains at Caiffa, to carry back information on this point to Alexandria, and if necessary, to cause transports to be sent.

By desire of GENERAL MICHELL,

(Signed) HOUSTON STEWART.

Sub-Inclosure 12 in No. 175.

Memorandum for Colonel Alderson's guidance.

Jaffa, January 22, 1841.

ACCOUNTS having been received by the Seraskier that a considerable number of Egyptian troops have advanced towards Gaza, his Excellency has requested that an English officer of rank and discretion should proceed to the quarters of the Egyptian officer commanding the troops in that neighbourhood, to act as Conservator of the Peace. In all probability the Egyptian Commandant will not feel himself authorized to order any of these troops to retire until he shall receive directions from Ibrahim Pasha; but you will point out to him the evident necessity that exists for the avoidance of any the smallest act of hostility or plunder, if he would not break the Convention and renew the war. So long as you are satisfied that he is acting in good faith, and doing everything possible to maintain order and peace towards the Turkish troops and inhabitants of the neighbourhood, you will remain with him, taking occasion at all times to point out and to urge upon him the propriety of hastening, by any means in his power, the evacuation of Syria, in the terms of Mehemet Ali Pasha's order to his son Ibrahim Pasha. Should you have reason to object to any of his proceedings, you will at once remonstrate and protest: should he persist, you will formally take your leave, and immediately return to the British head-quarters, giving notice that you have done so to the officer commanding the nearest post of the Ottoman troops, and putting him on his guard. You will communicate with head-quarters as frequently as possible, and notify as exactly as you can the number and state of the Egyptian troops in that district.

You will have with you copies of the letters which have been forwarded to Ibrahim Pasha, and of Commodore Sir Charles Napier's letters from Alexandria to General Michell and to Captain Stewart. The Seraskier Pasha has declared that he has no design to deprive the Egyptians of their arms, baggage, or guns; and that he wishes, by every fair and safe means, to facilitate the retirement from Syria of the Egyptian forces. Copies of the instructions given to the officers sent to Ibrahim Pasha, and to accompany General Jochmus, will also be furnished to you; and you will observe that the immediate evacuation of Syria is the principal object to which all others are to be considered as secondary.

By desire of GENERAL MICHELL,

(Signed) HOUSTON STEWART.

Sub-Inclosure 13 in No. 175.

General Jochmus to the Seraskier Ahmed Zacharias Pasha, and Hussein Pasha, President of the Aulic Council.

Excellences, *Jaffa, le* 21 *Janvier*, 1841.

J'AI l'honneur d'informer vos Excellences, que d'après des nouvelles officielles de mon Aide-de-Camp le Baron Dumont, les magasins d'Ibrahim Pacha à Maan ont été brûlés le 15 Janvier; que l'armée d'Ibrahim est coupée en deux, et en complète déroute, rebroussant chemin; qu'en conséquence, ses 150 canons sont déjà véritablement en notre pouvoir; et que sous ces circonstances, et d'après les ordres officiels lus au Conseil d'hier, on ne peut permettre à Ibrahim Pacha que le choix des conditions suivantes:—

1. De marcher sur El-Arish par le sud de la Mer Morte, ou bien sur Suez, avec les hommes, armes, et moyens de transport qu'il possède à présent.

2. De venir en détachmens de 3,000 hommes par Gaza sur El-Arish, en laissant en nos mains ses canons, en considérant de la grâce qui lui est accordée de poursuivre ce chemin, pourvu qu'il laisse tous les Syriens dans leur pays.

Il est de la plus urgente nécessité de couvrir toute la Palestine, sans un moment de délai, par toutes nos troupes, pour empêcher qu'on ne saccage et brûle le pays par des partis en désespoir, comme Ibrahim en a donné le funeste exemple il y a peu de jours à Jéricho; et s'il veut pénétrer, après nos sommations, par force en Palestine, ce qui n'est nullement probable, il faut repousser l'attaque par les armes, car dans ce cas c'est Ibrahim qui rompit la Convention.

Mr. Wood fera à votre Excellence une déclaration pareille en écrit.

Je ne saurais prendre la responsabilité personnelle d'aucune autre mesure; car elle compromettrait les intérêts les plus chers de Sa Majesté Impériale notre Auguste Maître, et l'honneur de nos belles victoires.

J'ai, &c.,

(Signé) A. JOCHMUS,
Lieutenant-Général.

(Translation.)

Jaffa, January 21, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellencies that, according to official intelligence from my aide-de-camp, Baron Dumont, the magazines of Ibrahim Pasha at Maan were burnt on the 15th of January; that the army of Ibrahim is cut in two, and is turning back in thorough disorder; that, consequently, his 150 cannons are already really in our power; and that under these circumstances, and according to the official orders read at the Council of yesterday, Ibrahim Pasha can only be allowed the choice of the following conditions:—

1. To march upon El-Arish by the south of the Dead Sea, or else upon Suez, with the men, arms, and means of conveyance which he now possesses.

2. To come in detachments of 3,000 men by Gaza upon El-Arish, leaving his cannons in our hands, in consideration of the favour which is granted to him of being permitted to follow this road, provided that he leaves all the Syrians in their country.

It is most urgently necessary to cover the whole of Palestine, without a moment's delay, with all our troops, in order to prevent the sacking and burning of the country by parties in desperation, of which Ibrahim gave a fatal example a few days since at Jericho; and if he attempts, after our summons, to penetrate by force into Palestine, which is not at all probable, the attack must be repelled by force of arms, for in that case it would be Ibrahim who would break the Convention.

Mr. Wood will make a similar declaration to your Excellency in writing.

I could not undertake the responsibility of any other measure; for it would compromise the dearest interests of His Imperial Majesty our August Master, and the glory of our great victories.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) A. JOCHMUS,
Lieutenant-General.

Sub-Inclosure 14 in No. 175.

Mr. Wood to the Seraskier Zacharias Pasha, and Hussein Pasha, President of the Aulic Council.

Excellences, *Ce* 21 *Janvier*, 1841.

D'APRES les dépêches arrivées aujourd'hui d'Alexandrie de son Excellence Mazloum Bey, et dont le Conseil tenu ce matin a eu connaissance, il ne reste aucun doute de l'entière soumission de Méhémet Ali à la volonté de son Auguste Maître le Sultan. Ces dépêches portent que l'évacuation de la Syrie doit s'effectuer sans retard: comme pourtant elles ne prescrivent que les moyens d'embarquer les femmes, les malades, &c., des échelles de la Syrie, la conclusion est claire, qu'Ibrahim Pacha et son armée doivent se pourvoir d'autres moyens pour se retirer. Les lettres du Commodore Napier au Général Michell, ainsi qu'à M. le Capitaine Stewart, ne prescrivent non plus aucune autre manière pour l'évacuation de la Syrie par la masse de l'armée ennemie.

Or, il me semble qu'il est bien entendu qu'Ibrahim Pacha doit rentrer en Egypte par le Désert, ou bien en prenant le chemin d'El-Arish, qui est la voie la plus directe, et celle qui lui offre les plus grandes facilités pour sa retraite. En lui laissant donc cette route libre, nous nous conformons au désir de Mazloum Bey et du Commodore d'offrir à l'ennemi toutes les facilités pour sa retraite, sans pourtant compromettre notre position militaire. Mazloum Bey nous dit clairement, qu'à son départ de Constantinople l'impression était que l'armée ennemie était complètement désorganisée, et que par conséquent très-faible, mais qu'à son arrivée à Alexandrie le Commodore Napier a voulu le détromper sur la faiblesse de l'Armée Egyptienne, qu'il prétendait être nombreuse, pourvue de tous les nécessaires, et en état d'offrir de la résistance à l'armée Impériale; et par conséquent ses rapports sur cette armée étaient si contraires les uns aux autres, qu'il n'a pas hasardé dans l'incertitude d'insister auprès de Méhémet Ali sur l'exécution de ces deux articles suivans des instructions de la Porte:—1°. Qu'il soit permis à tous les conscrits Syriens de rentrer dans leurs foyers avec leurs armes: 2°. Qu'il ne soit permis aux débris de l'armée ennemie de se retirer de la Syrie, qu'après avoir rendus leurs armes, canons, et matériel de guerre; et que par conséquent, comme nous étions sur les lieux mêmes, nous pouvions être les meilleurs juges de l'état de l'ennemi, et si nous devions ou non insister auprès d'Ibrahim Pacha sur l'exécution de ces deux conditions.

Sur ce point se sont survenues de longues discussions basées sur l'opinion personnelle de chaque membre du Conseil selon ses idées de l'état de l'ennemi; et comme nous n'en avions pas de renseignemens assez positifs pour en former une juste idée, il a été décidé par la majorité du Conseil, pour ne pas entraver les négociations, de permettre à l'ennemi de se retirer sans le faire subir les conditions susdites, quand même qu'il insiste de prendre la route de Gaza.

Les nouvelles positives, cependant, que nous venons de recevoir de la désorganisation complète de l'armée Egyptienne, de leur manque totale de vivres, de sa réduction à un fort petit nombre d'hommes capables d'offrir résistance, de la destruction de Maan par M. Dumont, du passage déjà par le Désert des femmes, des bagages, et de la seconde division sous Solyman Pacha, réduite à 5,000 hommes, du mouvement rétrograde d'Ibrahim Pacha avec une poignée d'hommes dépourvus même d'artillerie,

par suite de la destruction de Maan, ne nous laissent plus aucun doute de la condition désespérée et de l'anéantissement presque totale de l'ennemi.

N'ayant donc rien à craindre de l'opposition qu'il pourrait nous offrir, il me semble qu'il est de notre devoir de lui imposer ces deux conditions susdites, au moins celle qui regarde les conscrits Syriens, en lui offrant cet alternatif: ou de rentrer en Egypte par le Désert; ou bien, dans le cas qu'il est trop faible d'hasarder sa retraite par la voie ci-dessus indiquée, et qu'il demande la permission de venir à Gaza, qu'elle ne lui soit pas accordée sans qu'il se conforme aux deux conditions susdites. Cela serait en même tems lui accorder les facilités que Mazloum Bey, ainsi que le Commodore, nous enjoignent de lui donner, en se conformant pourtant de son côté à nos demandes, et aux instructions de la Porte. Si pourtant Ibrahim Pacha persiste de venir à Gaza sans se soumettre à ces conditions, l'agression venant de son côté, il doit bien en être responsable, et en subir les conséquences.

Voilà, Excellences, ma faible opinion, que j'ose soumettre à votre considération; elle a été formée après de mûres réflexions, car je ne puis pas cacher de moi-même, et je manquerais à mon devoir, si je ne vous faisais part du grand danger que je vois à l'introduction de l'ennemi à Gaza, où, ayant ses communications libres avec l'Egypte, il pourrait bien recruter son armée, et s'y maintenir dans une position menaçante pour aider son père de traiter plus avantageusement pour lui-même. Car sa conduite passée ne nous permet pas de compter trop sur ses paroles. Maintenant, même tandis qu'il a envoyé Hamid Bey à son fils avec ordre d'évacuer la Syrie, son Général à Gaza nous dit d'avoir des nstructions de ne pas nous attaquer, mais de ne nous livrer Gaza qu'avec sa vie, malgré que cette ville est une des plus importantes en Syrie. C'est par de pareils faits que vos Excellences pourraient juger de la mauvaise foi du vassal, qui refuse de rendre ses armes à la demande de son Souverain, ce qui rend sa soumission incomplète et même équivoque.

Veuillez, &c.,

(Signé) RICHARD WOOD.

(Translation.)

January 21, 1841.

ACCORDING to the despatches from his Excellency Mazloum Bey, received this day from Alexandria, and of which the Council held this morning has taken cognizance, there is no doubt of the entire submission of Mehemet Ali to the will of his August Master the Sultan. Those despatches declare that the evacuation of Syria must be effected without delay: as, however, they only prescribe the means of embarking the women, the sick, &c., from the ports of Syria, it is evidently to be concluded that Ibrahim Pasha and his army must provide themselves with other means of withdrawing themselves. Neither do the letters of Commodore Napier to General Michell, or to Captain Stewart, prescribe any other manner for the evacuation of Syria by the mass of the enemy's army.

Now, it appears to me, that it is well understood that Ibrahim Pasha must re-enter Egypt by the Desert, or else by the way of El-Arish, which is the most direct road, and that which offers him the greatest facilities for his retreat. By leaving this road, then, free, we act in conformity with the desire of Mazloum Bey and of the Commodore, to offer the enemy every facility for his retreat, without, however, compromising our military position. Mazloum Bey tells us distinctly that, at the time of his departure from Constantinople, the impression was, that the enemy's army was thoroughly disorganized, and consequently very weak; but that on his arrival at Alexandria, Commodore Napier wished to undeceive him as to the weakness of the Egyptian army, which he pretended was numerous, provided with all necessaries, and in a state to offer resistance to the Imperial army; and, consequently, his reports with respect to that army were so opposed to each other, that he did not venture in the uncertainty to

insist with Mehemet Ali upon the execution of the two following Articles of the Instructions of the Porte :—1. That all the Syrian conscripts should be allowed to return with their arms to their homes. 2. That the remains of the enemy's army should only be permitted to withdraw from Syria, after they had delivered up their arms, cannons, and military stores ; and that consequently, as we were on the very spot, we were able to be the best judges of the state of the enemy, and whether we ought, or not, to insist with Ibrahim Pasha upon the execution of these two conditions.

Upon this point there arose long discussions based upon the personal opinion of each member of the Council according to his ideas of the state of the enemy ; and as we had no information sufficiently positive to enable us to form a just opinion thereupon, it was decided by the majority of the Council, in order not to obstruct the negotiations, that the enemy should be permitted to retreat without subjecting him to the above-named conditions, even if he should persist in taking the road of Gaza.

The positive intelligence, however, which we have just received of the complete disorganization of the Egyptian Army; of their total want of provisions; of its reduction to a very small number of men capable of offering resistance; of the destruction of Maan by M. Dumont; of the passage over the Desert already, of the women, of the baggage, and of the second division under Solyman Pasha, reduced to 5,000 men; of the retrograde movement of Ibrahim Pasha with a handful of men deprived even of artillery, in consequence of the destruction of Maan ; leave us no longer any doubt as to the desperate condition and almost entire annihilation of the enemy.

Having, then, nothing to fear from the opposition which he could offer to us, it appears to me that it is our duty to impose the two above-named conditions upon him, at least that which regards the Syrian Conscripts, offering him this alternative: either to re-enter Egypt by the Desert, or else, in case he should be too weak to venture upon his retreat by the above-mentioned way, and that he should ask permission to come to Gaza, that that permission should not be granted to him unless he acts in accordance with the two above-named conditions. That would at the same time be affording him the facilities which Mazloum Bey, as well as the Commodore, enjoin us to give him, while, however, he on his side complied with our demands, and with the instructions of the Porte. If, however, Ibrahim Pasha persists in coming to Gaza without submitting to those conditions, the aggression coming from his side, he must certainly be responsible for it, and must suffer the consequences.

This is my humble opinion, which I venture to submit to your Excellencies's consideration ; it has been formed after mature reflection; for I cannot conceal from myself, and I should fail in my duty if I did not make you aware of, the danger which I perceive in the entrance of the enemy into Gaza, where, having his communication with Egypt free, he might very well recruit his army and maintain himself in a menacing position, in order to assist his father in negotiating more advantageously for himself. For his past conduct does not permit us to rely too much upon his promises. Even, now, while he sent Hamid Bey to his son with orders to evacuate Syria, his General at Gaza tells us he has instructions not to attack us, but to deliver up Gaza to us only with his life, notwithstanding that that is one of the most important towns in Syria. It is from such facts that your Excellencies may judge of the bad faith of the Vassal, who refuses to surrender his arms upon the demand of his Sovereign, which renders his submission incomplete and even doubtful.

Accept, &c.,

(Signed) RICHARD WOOD

Sub-Inclosure 15 in No. 175.

Captain Houston Stewart to Admiral Stopford.

British Head-Quarters, Jaffa,
February 2, 1841.

Sir,

IN consequence of the uneasiness evinced by the Turkish Authorities at the reported concentration of the Egyptian forces at Gaza, and the total want of any correct information as to the actual position of Ibrahim Pasha, and consequent ignorance of his intentions with regard to the evacuation of Syria, I went to Gaza on the 25th ultimo, and after various interviews with Menikli Ahmed Pasha commanding there, we drew up the Agreement of which you will receive copies herewith, together with the subsequent acceptance of our stipulations on the part of the Turkish Authorities here.

The Egyptians were manifestly unwilling to diminish their front until assured of the safety of their rear, commanded by Ibrahim in person; but we persuaded them by our guarantee to send off daily two regiments of cavalry. It has been extremely difficult to overcome the mistrust existing on both sides, and still it requires much attention and caution; but Colonel Bridgeman, who commands the forces, entertains precisely similar views with myself, and I hope we shall be able to keep all quiet and right. On Sunday afternoon, the 31st of January, Ibrahim Pasha arrived at Gaza, and he immediately gave us an audience, and yesterday he gave a letter of assurance for the Seraskier, that he meant to comply with his father's orders by immediately evacuating Syria, which I have not the least doubt he will perform; but it will require a little time unless the wind gets to the eastward, as there have been three transports with biscuits for the troops (and intended to receive the women, sick, and wounded) off Gaza for six days, without being able to land anything, owing to the great surf on the beach.

Six regiments of cavalry and 2,000 infantry marched last week on El-Arish. In consequence of the scantiness of the water in the wells in the Desert, it becomes necessary to regulate the march in successive columns. Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson, Royal Engineers, and Lieutenant Loring, Royal Navy, of Her Majesty's ship "Carysfort," are at Gaza, with directions to superintend and report upon the progress of evacuation, and I entertain the hope that within a fortnight from this date there will not be an armed Egyptian in Syria. On the 26th instant, after my arrival at Gaza, finding that the question of Syrian conscripts being allowed to remain in Syria with their arms, was anxiously insisted upon by the Turks, and as stoutly declined by the Egyptians, it was agreed that those who marched in the meantime should be noted in a list given to Colonel Alderson, and should the authority come from Alexandria, they were to be returned free of expense; and I immediately sent the "Hecate" on to communicate with Commodore Sir Charles Napier on the subject, and to get coals. The "Stromboli" returned, bringing me intelligence that Sir Charles Napier and Captain Martin were at Cairo, but that Captain Ward had (pursuant to instructions given in the event of their absence) an interview with Mehemet Ali Pasha, in which he was assured that it had been arranged and agreed five days before by himself, the Turkish Commissioner, Mazloum Bey, and the Commodore, that the Syrian conscripts should remain with their regiments till their arrival at Alexandria, when they would be exchanged for the Egyptians now remaining in Candia, the Hedjaz, and at Constantinople. I sent the "Stromboli" back to Alexandria last night, and the "Hecate" is just now in sight on her way back.

Ibrahim Pasha sent nearly all his guns, women, and children back to Egypt by Suez, under Solyman Pasha's command, with from 3,000 to 4,000 men. There cannot be less than 18,000 fighting men now at Gaza; the infantry, fatigued and weakened by a long Desert march, Ibrahim having gone very much to the south of the Dead Sea, in order to avoid the hostile tribes about El-Hated and the south end of the Dead Sea; but the cavalry quite fresh, and the horses in excellent condition.

It is my opinion, from all that I have seen and heard, that he will take about 28,000 or 30,000 troops back into Egypt.

I inclose a letter from General Jochmus to the Seraskier, dated the 22nd of January, from Jerusalem.

Colonel Bridgeman has consented to allow the greater part of the marines to be embarked at Acre, leaving a Captain's guard of the strongest and most healthy men on the stores there. Lieutenant-Colonel Mc Callum is to have his option to remain there for the present in charge, or to join head-quarters, or to embark in the "Vesuvius" and proceed to Marmorice. I shall direct the "Vesuvius" to call at Acre and Beyrout, and to take all invalids up. There will still remain the marine artillery at Sidon; but Captain Steele has received authority to remove to Beyrout either by sea or land, should sickness prevail; but there has been, according to the best accounts, but one case of plague. The "Hazard" is now at Tyre, as being the securest anchorage; the "Magicienne" between Acre and Tyre. I hope very soon to be able to send both of these ships to your flag, and I shall, ere long, get back to my own ship; but though somewhat inconvenient, I feel that this is my proper post for the present, and so I shall remain until the greater part of the Egyptians are out of Syria.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) HOUSTON STEWART,
Captain and Senior Officer on the Coast of Syria.

Sub-Inclosure 16 in No. 175.

General Jochmus to the Seraskier Ahmed Zacharias Pasha.

Quartier-Général de Jérusalem,
22 Janvier, 1841
27 Zilkade, 1265, 11 A.M.

Excellence,

J'AI l'honneur d'informer votre Excellence que je suis arrivé ici hier au soir. Le Lieutenant-Général Hassan Pacha y était retourné également hier de Chalil-Rachman; et Sélim Pacha, avec la brigade de Chalid Pacha, y sera aujourd'hui, de manière qu'il se trouvera ce soir réunie à Jérusalem une force de vingt-un bataillons, et dix-huit pièces d'artillerie. La cavalerie de Riza Pacha se réunira aujourd'hui au soir ou demain matin à celle du Murchardsou, qui doit être arrivée hier au soir à El-Chalil. Les forces, aux points centraux où elles se trouvent, devraient être plus que suffisantes pour appuyer nos négociations avec Ibrahim, s'ils auraient eu lieu; mais comme celui-ci doit se trouver, d'après les dépositions de tous les déserteurs, au sud de la Mer Morte, il n'y a plus lieu à négocier. Son armée est en complète déroute, faute de vivres par la prise de Maan, et les déserteurs déposent tous, que même avant d'arriver aux magazins (à présent brûlés), toute l'infanterie subsistait depuis quatre ou six jours de la chair de chameau. J'ai trouvé ici le Baron Dumont, qui me confirme la complète déroute des Egyptiens. Comme il a vu passer les trois premières colonnes à portée de fusil, et que dans la deuxième où devrait se trouver, d'après toutes les informations, l'artillerie, il n'a vu qu'un grand nombre de chameaux et de mulets, on croit ici généralement qu'Ibrahim a enterré ses canons dans le Désert.

De son infanterie on n'a vu que la troisième colonne, réduite à 5,000 hommes; un corps isolé à Jufila de 2,000 hommes, qui se trouvaient il y a quelques jours avec Ibrahim Pacha vers Kerek: tout ce monde était à moitié mort de faim. Les pertes d'Ibrahim en hommes, en chevaux, et en bêtes de somme, en repassant le Jordan, ont été très-fortes. Enfin son Excellence Hassan Pacha, sur une nouvelle de la paix, a envoyé un sauf-conduit à Ahmed Ménikli Pacha, commandant la Cavalerie Egyptienne, et lui a fait savoir qu'il ne l'attaquerait pas dans sa retraite, pourvu qu'il ne vint pas fourrager dans les villages près de Chalil. Ahmed Ménikli Pacha, conduit par un officier de Hassan Pacha, a alors choisi la route vers Gaza, dans sa retraite sur l'Egypte. La cavalerie, réduite à 2,500 chevaux et 700 cavaliers démontés, était dans le plus misérable

état; et sans la Convention, deux bataillons dans les passes presque impraticables du Vadi-el-Ghir, à une journée au sud de Chalil, auraient été suffisantes pour arrêter cette colonne. Il me parait très-nécessaire aux troupes venues vers Gaza de se retirer, afin qu'il n'y ait jamais plus de 3,000 hommes à la fois dans cet endroit. Je prie votre Excellence de communiquer cette lettre à M. le Général Michell.

J'ai, &c.,
(Signé) A. JOCHMUS,
Lieutenant-Général.

P.S.—Il y a beaucoup d'orge à El-Chalil, et on y trouve d'autres provisions, mais il faut y envoyer du riz et du beurre.

(Translation.)

Head-Quarters, Jerusalem, $\frac{27 \text{ Zilkadé, } 1257,}{\text{January } 22, 1841,}$ 11 A.M.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I arrived here yesterday evening. Lieutenant-General Hassan Pasha also returned here yesterday from Chalil-Rachman; and Selim Pasha, with the brigade of Chalid Pasha, will be here to-day, so that this evening a force of twenty-one battalions, and eighteen guns will be assembled at Jerusalem. The cavalry of Riza Pasha will this evening or to-morrow morning join that of the Murchardsou, who must have arrived yesterday evening at El-Chalil. The forces, in the central positions in which they are, ought to be more than sufficient to support our negotiations with Ibrahim, if they should have taken place; but as the latter must be, according to the statements of all the deserters, to the south of the Dead Sea, there is no longer any occasion for negotiation. His army is in complete disorder, for want of provisions, owing to the capture of Maan: and all the deserters state, that even before reaching the magazines (now burnt), the whole infantry subsisted for four or six days upon camel's flesh. I found Baron Dumont here, who corroborates the complete defeat of the Egyptians. As he saw the three first columns pass within gun-shot, and as in the second where, according to all accounts, the artillery ought to have been, he only saw a great number of camels and mules, it is generally believed here that Ibrahim has buried his cannons in the desert.

The third column only of his infantry was seen, reduced to 5,000 men; a separate body at Jufila of 2,000 men, who were some days since with Ibrahim Pasha near to Kerek: all these people were half dead with hunger. The losses of Ibrahim in men, in horses, and in beasts of burden, in passing the Jordan, were very great. Finally, his Excellency Hassan Pasha upon the news of peace, sent a safe conduct to Ahmed Menikli Pasha, commander of the Egyptian Cavalry, and gave him to understand that he would not attack him in his retreat, provided that he did not come to plunder the villages near to Chalil. Ahmed Menikli Pasha, conducted by an officer of Hassan Pasha, then chose the road towards Gaza in his retreat upon Egypt. The cavalry, reduced to 2,500 horses and 700 dismounted horsemen, was in the most miserable condition: and had it not been for the Convention, two battalions in the almost impracticable passes of the Vadi-el-Ghir, one day south of Chalil, would have been sufficient to stop that column. It appears to be very necessary for the troops coming towards Gaza to withdraw, in order that there may never be more than 3,000 men at a time in this place. I request your Excellency to communicate this letter to General Michell.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) A. JOCHMUS,
Lieutenant-General.

P.S.—There is plenty of barley at El-Chalil, and there are other provisions there, but rice and butter must be sent there.

Sub-Inclosure 17 in No. 175.

Colonel Bridgeman to Admiral Stopford.

British Head-Quarters, Jaffa, February 2, 1841.

Sir,

ON the 17th of January a letter was addressed to your Excellency by Brigadier-General Michell, (inclosing a despatch from Lieutenant-General Jochmus,) in which the operations against Gaza and their result, as well as General Michell's observations thereon, will have placed your Excellency in possession of the events which have taken place on this part of the coast to that date inclusive. Major Wilbraham, Lieutenant Loring, Royal Navy, and Hamid Bey, (whose departure hence for the head-quarters of Ibrahim Pasha was mentioned in General Michell's letter,) after a long and fruitless expedition by the southern extremity of the Dead Sea, turned westward to Gaza, hoping there to obtain some accurate information of Ibrahim Pasha's line of march; from thence Lieutenant Loring returned to this place on the 23d of January, bringing us information of the arrival there on the 22d January of Ahmed Pasha with the advanced guard of Ibrahim Pasha's army.

Major Wilbraham, on the same day, again left Gaza with Hamid Bey, for El-Khalil, from whence, on the 25th, he proceeded to the Pass of Suera, through which it was expected Ibrahim Pasha would retire to Gaza, accompanied by Hamid Bey and by Omar Pasha, and also by Captain Arbuthnot, Royal Navy, who having arrived in Syria on the 21st instant, had been sent on a similar mission to the head-quarters of Ibrahim Pasha, and had met with Major Wilbraham at El-Khalil.

In order to satisfy ourselves of the good faith of the Egyptian Generals, and at the same time to afford them every possible assurance that the retreat of their army should be protected and favoured to the utmost of our power, (some slight distrust having been evinced by them in consequence of a movement of the Turkish troops at El-Khalil,) Captain Houston Stewart, accompanied by Lieutenant Loring, Colonel Rose, and Rechid Pasha, (Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson of the Royal Engineers having been also sent there two days previously, to place himself in communication with the commanding officer of the Egyptian force,) proceeded on the 25th to Gaza, and arrived there early on that day. They were at the same time to urge the speedy evacuation of that place, and the retirement on the Egyptian frontier of the troops which were daily arriving. I also instructed Colonel Rose, as soon as he should be provided with a sufficient Turkish escort, (taking with him an Egyptian officer of rank,) to proceed on the route by which Ibrahim Pasha would most probably approach Gaza, and secure him as far as possible from any act of aggression on the part of the Bedouin Arabs, and other irregular troops. I conceive it now to be my duty to mention to your Excellency, that notwithstanding Brigadier-General Michell and Captain Stewart, in their interviews with the Seraskier and Council after the receipt of the Convention, were under the full impression that all hostile movements would be forbidden, and that the retirement of the Egyptian troops would be permitted in all sincerity and good faith, it was ascertained by Captain Stewart in the course of a subsequent conversation with Rechid Pasha, that orders had been sent to General Jochmus to act upon Ibrahim Pasha's line of march, and impede it as much as possible, abstaining at the same time from any direct attack.

The large force, however, concentrated at Gaza, had in the mean time considerably influenced Rechid Pasha, and he returned forthwith to Jaffa, arriving here on the 25th. On meeting me, (being of course aware that Captain Stewart had communicated to me his discovery of the orders which had been issued,) Rechid Pasha immediately put into my hands the very letter, as he assured me, which he had addressed to General Jochmus, but which he found had not been sent. I strongly protested in the Council at the course which had been adopted, and pointed out how surely the honour of the British name and of the Turkish

cause would have been compromised thereby, as being so directly at variance with the assurances which Captain Stewart, Colonel Rose, and Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson had made to the Egyptian Generals; and I then received the most positive assurances that no hostile movement should be made, and that every possible assistance should be given to the Egyptians.

I have no doubt, however, that the order in question was given under the impression that Ibrahim Pasha's army had been almost entirely destroyed in the Desert, or was at all events in a completely disorganized state, knowing as we do that instructions had been received from Constantinople, directing that in such case Ibrahim Pasha should be compelled to give up his guns and arms.

I objected to certain movements of the Turkish troops, which, although not suggested with any hostile intention, might yet, I conceived, have induced suspicion and mistrust on the part of the Egyptians.

To dissipate all feeling of the nature, and personally to reiterate assurances of their anxiety to assist and favour the retreat of the Egyptian army, Rechid Pasha returned on the 25th to Gaza. On the 29th of January I received from Captain Stewart and Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson, a Note (of which a copy is inclosed,) which had passed between them and Ahmed Pasha and the other Egyptian Generals. Sub-Inclosure 19 is the partial affirmation of this document by the Seraskier, Lieutenant-General Jochmus, and the Mustechar Effendi; and Sub-Inclosure 20 is the copy of my letter to Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson, transmitting it to him.

Major Wilbraham and his companions ceased not in the meantime to prosecute their search, and were twenty-four hours in the desert without water: all their exertions were however fruitless, and it was not until the 31st of January, that Colonel Rose (in consequence of information obtained from some deserters of Ibrahim Pasha's column) was enabled to ascertain his exact line of march. On the morning of that day, he came up with Ibrahim Pasha about twenty miles from Gaza, on the route from the southern extremity of the Dead Sea, and having delivered to him a copy of Mehemet Ali's instructions on the evacuation of Syria, accompanied him to Gaza.

This morning Colonel Rose, and a few hours afterwards Captain Stewart, returned to Jaffa, and the former officer has placed in my hands the inclosed translated copy of a Note addressed to the Seraskier by Ibrahim Pasha, with which the Seraskier has expressed himself as satisfied.

From the report I have received, it would appear that the Egyptian force which has reached Gaza, amounted to about 15,000 infantry, and 6,000 or 7,000 cavalry. Of the latter, six regiments of regular cavalry, which may amount to about 2,400 men, and 1,200 irregular cavalry have proceeded to El-Arish; and prior to Captain Stewart's arrival at Gaza, 2,000 infantry are stated to have retired in a similar direction.

He is decidedly of opinion that the evacuation will take place without any unnecessary delay, and that within a fortnight, not an armed Egyptian will be left in Syria. Whilst the wind however remains in its present quarter, it will be impossible either to land the biscuit which the troops will require for their homeward march, or to embark the women, the sick, and the wounded.

Colonel Rose having had some personal communication with Ibrahim Pasha, and being enabled to afford your Excellency any further information, I have directed him to proceed in Her Majesty's Steam Vessel "Vesuvius" as the bearer of this despatch, and to proceed from Marmorice to Constantinople. I purpose proceeding to Gaza on the 5th instant.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. H. BRIDGEMAN.
Colonel Commanding.

Sub-Inclosure 18 in No. 175.

Guarantee by Menikli Pasha, and the other Chief Officers of the Egyptian Army, at present encamped near Gaza.

Gaza, January 28, 1841

WE, the Undersigned, being assembled in council with Commodore Houston Stewart, Royal British Navy, and Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson, Royal Engineers, after the discussion which has taken place, have pledged ourselves, that his Highness Ibrahim Pasha will, on his arrival at Gaza, execute the orders of his Highness Mehemet Ali, the Viceroy of Egypt, for the evacuation of Syria, and that he will not make any movement whatever against those orders, for all of which we give our signatures and affix our seals.

(Signed) (L.S.) AHMED MENIKLI,
General of Division.
KOURCHID,
General of Division.
SELIM,
General of Division.
AHMED DRAMALY,
General of Division.
ISHMAEL,
General of Brigade.
IBRAHIM,
General of Brigade.
MAHMOUD BEY,
Captain of the Navy.

Captain Houston Stewart and Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson to Menikli Ahmed Pasha and the other Chief Officers of the Egyptian Army at present encamped near Gaza.

Gaza, January 28, 1841.

IN consequence of the written guarantee which you have now given us, making yourself responsible that his Excellency Ibrahim Pasha, as well as yourselves, will implicitly obey, and forthwith carry into effect with perfect good faith, the orders of his Excellency Mehemet Ali Pasha for the evacuation of Syria by the whole of the Egyptian Army: We, Houston Stewart, Captain of Her Britannic Majesty's ship "Benbow," and Senior Naval Officer on the coast of Syria, and Lieutenant-Colonel Ralph Carr Alderson, Royal Engineers, representing here the united forces of Great Britain, do pledge ourselves that no molestation nor any obstacle be put in the way of such evacuation, and that you are perfectly safe in diminishing your forces here as fast as possible; and, further, that provided you continue to make that diminution to the satisfaction of the said Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson, we promise to insist with his Excellency the Seraskier, Zacharias Pasha, Commanding in Chief the Ottoman forces, that no advance shall be made by the Turkish troops now at Megdill, nor Governor be sent to Gaza, until Colonel Alderson shall have reported the evacuation complete; and we promise, that if the Turkish authorities refuse to ratify and accept any one of these conditions, we will immediately, and in perfect honourable faith, give you notice thereof.

(Signed) HOUSTON STEWART.
R. C. ALDERSON.

Sub-Inclosure 19 in No. 175.

Guarantee by the Seraskier, the Moustechar Effendi, and Lieutenant-General Jochmus.

WE, the Undersigned, upon the received declaration of his Excellency Menikli Ahmed Pasha and the other Egyptian Generals and Officers, to carry forthwith into execution the entire evacuation of Syria and the Desert, consent and promise faithfully to abstain from any hostile movement, according to the promise given by Commodore Stewart and Colonel Alderson, with the proviso that the forces at present near and at Gaza march on El-Arish within seven days from this, embarking such men in transports as are sick, unfit for campaign, and unable to march according to Colonel Alderson's judgment, and provided no movement is made by any Egyptian force at Gaza, east or northward.

Given under our hand and seal at the Imperial Head-Quarters of Jaffa, January 30, 1841.

(L.S.) MOUSTECHAR EFFENDI, *Seraskier.*
JOCHMUS, *Lieutenant-General.*

Sub-Inclosure 20 in No. 175.

Colonel Bridgeman to Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson.

British Head-Quarters, Jaffa,
January 31, 1841, 3 *o'Clock,* P.M.

Sir,

YOUR letter of the 28th instant, inclosing the documents which Captain Stewart and yourself have executed with the General and other Officers of the Egyptian army, in which mutual assurances and pledges of good faith in the execution of the Convention are exchanged, was received by me yesterday evening soon after seven o'clock.

I most fully concur therein, and have lost no time in communicating with the Seraskier. From ten o'clock this morning until this hour, I have been occupied in discussions and deliberations. The Seraskier Pasha, Jochmus Pasha, Houssein Pasha, the Moustechar Effendi, and Eyub Pasha, assisted at the Council, and the result thereof is appended by them to the Official Note which is inclosed.

They all profess most earnestly their sincere wish and desire to carry through the Convention in all sincerity and good faith, and most positively assure me, that no hostile movement or oppression shall be made on their part.

Two regiments of cavalry are ordered to Ashdod as a connecting link between this place and Megdill; it had been their intention to send four regiments there, especially, as they assured me, to enable them to provide forage for their horses; but on my urgent request that only two regiments (to which I had previously assented) should be sent, the two extra regiments will be withheld.

You will observe by the inclosed Note signed by the Seraskier Pasha, Jochmus Pasha, and the Moustechar Effendi, that they fix seven days for the total evacuation of Gaza by the troops now there. Similar indulgence will be extended to any other force which may arrive, either under Ibrahim Pasha or other officers' command. It will, therefore, be desirable that you should obtain from Ahmed Pasha and the other officers a written promise to carry the evacuation of Gaza into effect within that period; it would appear that ample time is thus given, as seven regiments of cavalry will already have proceeded to El-Arish. As regards the embarkation of the Egyptian infantry at Gaza, I have strongly urged it as a more immediate and speedy means of relieving the country from their presence; but their orders from Constantinople on this head, they say, are imperative, and they cannot assent to it;

at the same time they are willing to give the most liberal construction to the embarking of sick, and, therefore, any of the infantry who may, in your opinion, be unfit to proceed by land, you are empowered to embark in the transports now at Gaza. It would be very desirable that the numerical force of combatants should be ascertained, and that a note should be made of such infantry as from physical causes you consider proper subjects to be transported by sea. By thus embarking every infantry soldier who may not be fit to march, and who could, therefore, delay the immediate retirement of that force, you will, I trust, be enabled to effect the evacuation of the Syrian territory within the stipulated time. I would beg that in tendering my respects to Ahmed Pasha, you will assure him that I am perfectly convinced of the good faith of the Turkish authorities, and that I shall not fail to watch over and secure, to the utmost of my power, the safety of the last man who may be left in Syria.

(Signed) E. H. BRIDGEMAN,
Colonel Commanding.

Sub-Inclosure 21 in No. 175.

Ibrahim Pasha to the Seraskier.

(Translation.)

Your Highness,

I AM going from Syria for Egypt. Your letter has reached me; the Egyptian troops are concentrating in Gaza, and when they have their necessary supplies, they will go immediately according to your wishes.

I have written this to you in a friendly manner and have sent it to Your Highness.

(Signed) IBRAHIM.

Sub-Inclosure 22 in No. 175.

Commodore Napier to Admiral Stopford.

Her Majesty's Ship "Carysfort,"
Sir, *Alexandria, February* 4, 1841.

IN my letter to you of the 23rd of January, I informed you of the arrival of Ibrahim Pasha at Gaza, which I find was a mistake; he marched with the rear-guard, and arrived at Gaza on the 31st.

I received a private letter from Captain Stewart, dated the 25th of January, informing me that he was very apprehensive that the Turkish authorities would seize any opportunity to bring on a collision between the Turks and Egyptians, and in fact they had advanced, and skirmished with the outposts, and then made rather a precipitate retreat.

I inclose copies of the letters I wrote to Captain Stewart, General Jochmus, and Colonel Bridgeman.

Yesterday, I again heard from Captain Stewart, announcing the arrival of Ibrahim Pasha at Gaza, and his intention of immediately retiring into Egypt; he had collected at Gaza 25,000 men, including about 6,000 cavalry, in good order. This formidable force will, I have no doubt, keep the Turks quiet.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) CHARLES NAPIER,
Commodore.

Sub-Inclosure 23 in No. 175.

Commodore Napier to Captain Houston Stewart.

Her Majesty's Ship "Carysfort,"
Alexandria, February 2, 1841.

Sir,

I BEG to inclose you the copy of a Convention entered into by myself and the Egyptian Government, which Convention has been approved of by the British Government and the Allies, and I have been sent by Sir Robert Stopford to carry it into execution.

I have authorized his Highness the Pasha to send frigates or transports to Gaza, to embark any part of the Egyptian army he thinks fit, and it is my directions that you afford them every facility in your power to accomplish this, as well as to facilitate their retreat by land.

You will call upon the Turkish authorities to support you in this, and should you find any impediment thrown in the way, you will, in the name of the Allied Powers, protest against it, in the most solemn manner, as contrary to the existing treaties, as contrary to the custom of civilized nations, as contrary to the laws of humanity, and contrary even to the interests of the Porte.

The Syrian troops are not to be embarked against their own free will, but if you have any suspicion that General Jochmus will use them against the Egyptians, they had better be disarmed, or even allowed to go into Egypt, in fact do anything to avoid a collision.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) CHARLES NAPIER,
Commodore.

P.S.—I have written this to avoid any misunderstanding, though my letter of the 11th of January, delivered to you by Lieutenant Loring, appears sufficiently explicit. The "Stromboli" is to be sent back immediately.

Sub-Inclosure 24 in No. 175.

Commodore Napier to Colonel Bridgeman.

Her Majesty's Ship "Carysfort,"
Alexandria, February 2, 1841.

Sir,

CAPTAIN STEWART will show you the Convention entered into between the Egyptian Government and myself. I have written to him on the subject, and I consider it my duty to call upon you, in your quality of Commander of the British forces in Syria, to do everything in your power to prevent any collision between the Turkish and Egyptian armies.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) CHARLES NAPIER,
Commodore.

Sub-Inclosure 25 in No. 175.

Commodore Napier to General Jochmus.

Her Majesty's Ship "Carysfort,"
Alexandria, February 2, 1841.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour of inclosing you a copy of a Convention entered into by myself and the Egyptian Government, which has been approved by the Allies, and I have been sent to see it carried into execution.

I send you this Convention, because I understand the Turkish authorities (notwithstanding my letter to you of the 11th of January, sent by Lieutenant Loring) have put difficulties in the way of carrying it into execution, and have even meditated an attack on the Egyptian army.

I have authorized Mehemet Ali to send frigates or transports to Gaza, to embark any portion of the Egyptian army he sees fit, and I have directed Captain Stewart to give them every facility, and I call upon your Excellency, in the name of the Allied Powers, to desist from any hostile measures.

Relative to the question of the Syrians, I have directed Captain Stewart not to embark them against their will.

Should the Turkish authorities (at the head of which, I believe, you are) impede in any way the return of the Egyptian army, I have directed Captain Stewart, in the name of the Allies, to protest against it in the most solemn manner, as contrary to the custom of civilized nations, as contrary to the existing treaties, as contrary to the laws of humanity, and contrary even to the interests of the Porte.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) CHARLES NAPIER,
Commodore.

Sub-Inclosure 26 in No. 175.

Captain Houston Stewart to Hussein Pasha Effendi.

British Head Quarters,
Excellency, *Jaffa, February* 6, 1841.

I HAVE just been informed that your Excellency has sent a handsome sabre to my quarters. I beg to assure your Excellency of the grateful sense I entertain of the honour and compliment intended, but at the same time most respectfully to inform your Excellency, that the regulations of our service strictly prohibit its officers from accepting any presents from a Foreign Government, unless such present be transmitted through the Admiral Commanding in Chief, and be accompanied by his sanction.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) HOUSTON STEWART,
Captain of Her Majesty's Ship "Benbow," and Senior Officer on the Coast of Syria.

Sub-Inclosure 27 in No. 175.

Colonel Bridgeman to Admiral Stopford.

British Head Qvarters,
Sir, *Jaffa, February* 16, 1841.

CAPTAIN HENDERSON, of Her Majesty's steam vessel "Vesuvius," having left Jaffa this day with a detachment of the Royal Artillery, for Beyrout, and his return to the coast of Syria being, I believe, uncertain, may I be permitted to express to your Excellency how extremely indebted I am (as commanding the British forces in this country) to him for the extreme kindness, zeal, and activity which he has at all times evinced, whilst employed in the conveyance of officers and men, to and from various parts of the coast. It is impossible to say how very much indebted we all are to him for his personal kindness and attention; and in bearing testimony to the manner in which he has carried on, and on every occasion expedited, the public service, I am only venturing to make known to your Excellency those sentiments which the late Brigadier-General Michell would, I well know, have felt it his most pleasing duty to express.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) E. H. BRIDGEMAN,
Colonel commanding the British Forces in Syria.

Sub-Inclosure 28 in No. 175.

General Jochmus to Admiral Stopford.

Head-Quarters, Jaffa,
January 13, 1841.

Sir,

INTRUSTED by the Imperial Firman of the end of the Ramazan with the operations of the army since the 16th of December, I immediately resolved to assume the offensive against Ibrahim Pasha, who had concentrated his forces at Damascus, since the end of November, reduced, however, from 20,000 to 24,000 regular infantry, 5,000 to 6,000 regular cavalry, 150 or more pieces of partly disorganized artillery, besides 4,000 irregular Koordish and Annadi horse, and as many Albanians and other irregular infantry.

The Turkish and Allied forces consisted at that period of 15,000 infantry, and 150 cavalry, and 30 pieces of artillery, exclusive of the garrison of Acre, which, reduced to four battalions and a detachment of British marines, was destined to remain at that point. The Emir Bechir maintained still in pay a corps of 3,000 mountaineers, infantry, and 500 cavalry.

Such was the strength of the forces when, after the necessary preliminary arrangements, I transferred my head-quarters from Beyrout to Hasbeya, where I arrived on the 22nd of December, and without loss of time, ordered the *levée en masse* of the population of Lebanon, and of the whole of Syria south of the line of Beyrout, Balbeck, and Damascus, including the warlike tribes of the Haouran. I had sent my Aide-de-Camp, Captain De L'Or, to direct the operations against Damascus, and Count Szechenyi of the Austrian service, to command the Bedouin tribes on the left bank of the Jordan, south of the Lake of Tiberias. Both these officers executed the arduous and perilous tasks with brilliant courage and devotion.

From the best and most authentic information that could be obtained, it was evident that Ibrahim Pasha, towards the latter part of the month of December, had resolved to maintain himself as long as possible in Damascus, in hopes of a speedy settlement of the Egyptian Question, and a pacific arrangement that might enable him to withdraw his shattered forces from Syria.

The fact of the "Carysfort" frigate being in the harbour of Alexandria, and the nature of the news from Europe which Ibrahim Pasha obtained from friendly agents in Beyrout, Sidon, and other sea-ports, afforded him unquestionably strong reasons to hold out to the last. On the other hand, should circumstances force him to retire (since violent remonstrances, visited on their authors in some instances by capital punishment, had been addressed by many or most of his officers against the retreat through the Desert), the Pasha had resolved to march by El-Mezerib, the bridge of Maajuma on the Jordan, Djenin, Ramla, and Gaza to El-Arish.

The most positive and well-corroborated news had been obtained on this head from Damascus, and the fact was placed beyond a doubt when Mehemet Ali had obtained not only the authority from the British naval Commander-in-Chief to embark the sick, wounded, and women (who alone amount to upwards of 10,000), at or near Gaza; but had actually sent from El-Arish a cavalry division of 3,000 men, who encamped on the borders of the Desert, three quarters of an hour south of Gaza.

Under such circumstances, I considered it a most positive duty on my part to defeat the intention of the Egyptian Commander; first, by obliging him to quit Damascus, and secondly, by forcing him to take the route of the Desert; for if a Convention had actually been signed while Ibrahim Pasha remained at Damascus, the military question remained undecided, and the complete conquest of Syria by the Allied arms could be denied upon the ground of our supposed inability of driving a much superior force from its capital; while, if the Egyptian army made forcibly

its way through Palestine on El-Arish, its losses and sufferings would be small, the country being rich in every resource, and large Government stores existing still at Safed, Tiberias, Ramla, and Gaza.

I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency annexed the plan of operations contained in my despatch to Lieutenant-General Selim Pasha, Governor of St. Jean d'Acre, then Kaimakam of Syria, in the absence of his Excellency the Seraskier Zacharias Pasha, who was still in the north of Syria.

Your Excellency will perceive that the general outline of this plan was to concentrate the whole of the regular forces towards the defiles formed by Mount Carmel and the mountains of Naplouse by a march along the coast, while all the irregular forces from the Lebanon, &c., &c., moving parallel to the Egyptian army along the right bank of the Jordan and the lakes of Hule and Tiberias, not only covered the magazines at Safed and Tiberias, but were constantly in a position for close observation, covering Syria against large foraging detachments, and remaining at the same time disposable for a concentric movement on the defiles of Djenin, where I calculated to unite 25 battalions with 30 pieces of artillery, and a mountaineer force of from 10,000 to 12,000 men, and to fight decidedly a general action on ground quite impracticable for the enemy's cavalry. It was at the time, and it remains still, my firm conviction, that victory would have crowned the Sultan's arms in a few hours, and that the whole of Ibrahim Pasha's army would have been annihilated or obliged to surrender; the only force of his, still in some state like organization, being his cavalry, and this would have been of no use to him in the rocky grounds of Djenin.

The appeal to arms in the Sultan's name was cheerfully followed by the mountaineer population of the Lebanon and Anti-Lebanon, obeying Prince Kassim Emir Bechir; by the men of Bellad Bascharra and Safed under their Mussellims, Hamid El Bey, Hussein Selman, and Seid Abdul Ali; by the Emirs of Rasbeya and Hasbeya, and the cavalry of Balbeck under the Emirs Handjar, Achmet, and Chalib Arrian.

The powerful house of Abdel-Al, Governors of Naplouse, called to the standards the Mussulman population of their districts, and of Djebel Kods; and the Bedouin tribes of Kura, Adjelun, and Es-Salt, prepared for booty when the hour for pursuing the enemy should have come, for these latter will not face an armed force, but are terrible to a flying foe.

On the 27th of December the Haouran population appeared already in masses round El-Mezerib, and Kaftan Agassi, the Egyptian Commander of the Hennedy Cavalry and Moghribins, who had occupied that important post to protect the stores, collected there since two months, was obliged to fall back near to Damascus, leaving all the provisions and forage in the hands of our partisans, who appeared in strong bodies on Ibrahim's last line of communication with Egypt.

Since the 24th of December, the cavalry of Balbeck had thrown back the outposts of Ibrahim Pasha into the very gardens of Damascus, maintaining themselves afterwards at one or two hours from the gates of the town, and thus facilitating the desertion of the enemy. Upwards of 100 officers and 800 men of the regular troops had presented themselves at our outposts up to the 28th of December, many bringing with them both horses and arms, and offering themselves for immediate service in the Imperial army.

Justly alarmed at the imminent danger of his military position in the centre of a general insurrectionary movement, with an army in utter destitution and deserting in all directions; blocked up within the walls of a large and disaffected town, ready for revolt, and with the enemy at its gates; unable at the same time to depend upon his troops, the major part of which might join the inhabitants against their General;—Ibrahim Pasha at last gave way to the force of unlucky circumstances, and, selling the stores he could not carry away, and destroying a great part of his ammunition, he began his retreat on the 29th of December in the afternoon, encamping in the gardens of Damascus, and continued his march on the 30th as far as El Ressone, three hours from the latter city.

On the 31st of December, an advanced guard of 1,000 Druses and

2,000 Balbeck Cavalry entered Damascus, to establish the authority of the Sultan; but the cavalry, in accordance with my positive orders to Captain De l'Or, started soon after to pursue the Egyptians in their route towards Mezerib, where Ibrahim's army arrived on the 2nd and 3rd of January, 1841, after a loss, by desertion, killed, and dead from the cold, of upwards of 10,000 men and 20 guns.

The hail and intense cold caused numerous deaths among the nearly-naked soldiery in summer clothing, and the sword of the fierce and revengeful Haouranees, the victims of Ibrahim's abominable oppression, was unmerciful to small detachments or straggling deserters.

The bivouacs of the Egyptian army and the whole line of march resemble a wide field of battle, from the dead bodies of men and animals, such of the latter as could not keep up being immediately shot, by order of the Pasha.

Ibrahim Pasha's march was followed in a parallel direction by the forces of the Emir Bechir, to whom I had given the Command-in-Chief of all the light troops, and who, departing from Al-Elias and Zachlé, marched by Merdje Adjun and Safed on Tiberias, reinforced, at each station to the south, by the different detachments of volunteers who had been directed to assemble along the banks of the Jordan.

The Balbeck Cavalry having also come to Tiberias from its pursuit of the enemy in the direction of Mezerib, the Emir Bechir found himself on the 4th and 5th of January at the head of 1,000 infantry and 1,500 horse, in and near Tiberias, while the defile of Djenin was occupied by a body of Albanians and Naplousians, supported by a strong force of the latter at six hours' distance at Naplouse, ready to move at a moment's notice.

Nineteen battalions of the regular army having been concentrated at Acre since the 5th of January, marched on that day, and on the 6th, from that place in the direction of Jaffa; and, with the eight battalions already in Palestine at Jerusalem and Ramla, were in position to arrive at Djenin long before the enemy.

My own head-quarters had been transferred successively on the 31st of December from Hasbeya to Safed, thence, on the 3rd, to the Djesr Madjuma, on the 4th to Djenin, on the 5th to Naplouse, and on the 6th to Jerusalem.

Ibrahim Pasha remained three days irresolute at El-Mezerib, reconnoitring Feik and the Jordan; but, informed or calculating on the certainty of a general action, if he persisted in his intended movement on Djenin, he pushed his advanced guard on the 4th on Remtha; thus declaring his movement and indicating that he had changed his plans.

He was followed thither by all his forces and his trains on the 5th and 6th.

On this latter day his rear-guard was attacked in Remtha, by the cavalry of Chalib Arrian, who had gone again over the Jordan from Tiberias on the 5th instant. On the 7th, a skirmish took place near Djaraseh with the partisans of Count Szechenyi. On the 9th, the rear-guard of Ibrahim, sending out a foraging party, with some artillery, towards Es-Salt, the latter was repulsed in the defiles.

The Egyptian army, fairly launched into the desert, has not since been authentically heard of; when last seen, between the El-Mezerib and Kalat Mefrek, its infantry was reduced to 15,000 disorderly men; its artillery, though still numerous, was utterly disorganised, principally by desertion; infantry soldiers serving the guns; the cavalry alone was in something like discipline.

After four months' campaign, a powerful army of 65,000 regular troops has thus been reduced to scarcely two incomplete divisions. The valour of the Imperial and Allied troops has done much in the conquest of a vast country like Syria in a short period of glory and success; but Providence has evidently visited the sins of tyranny and unparalleled oppression on the heads of Mehemet Ali and Ibrahim Pasha, and has given a new and terrible lesson, that if revolt and armed rebellion against the legitimate Sovereign are events unfortunately frequent in history, they lead finally, but through heavy misfortune, to the wiser order of things, which intrusts the direction of Empires to those in whose hands command has been vested from their birth.

The God of Battle may lead Ibrahim and his shattered forces through

the Desert, and bring some troops back to the banks of the Nile. I have taken, as in duty bound, such means as may as much as possible delay his march, or diminish his chances of escape.

On the 6th of January, from Jerusalem, I ordered by twelve firmans the general insurrection of the Bedouin tribes of the Desert, and giving them as a reward all the Miri or Government tithes of produce, collected at Maan, the great central depôt of the Desert, provided they would remove them and others out of the way of Ibrahim Pasha's line of march,—I entrusted the command of this expedition to the Sheik Abdul Rahman, the renowned Chief of Djebel Chalil, the personal and for ten years the unvanquished enemy of Ibrahim Pasha. This expedition of 2,000 Bedouin horse was accompanied by my Aide-de-camp Baron Dumont, of the Austrian service, an officer of talent and resolution, and by Hadgi Hafiz Bey, the son of the Governor Osman Aga of Jerusalem.

My next reports will inform your Excellency of the issue of this enterprise.

It is to me an agreeable duty to state to your Excellency the perfect unanimity which has actuated all the officers and men of the Turkish and Allied forces, during these late and extensive operations, which by mere strategic combinations and movements, and with very little loss of life, have produced great and important results; the clear proof of Ibrahim's having lost Syria by mere force of arms, and without negotiations, the salvation of Palestine from pillage and destruction, and finally, the enormous loss of the Egyptian General, only as far as El-Mezerib, since he left Damascus, without calculating those reserved for him by the sufferings of the Desert.

To Brigadier-General Michell and Commodore Houston Stewart, of Her Britannic Majesty's service, I have to offer my most grateful acknowledgments for their zealous and active co-operation. To their Excellencies Lieutenants-General Selim and Hassan Pashas, to his Excellency the Moustechar Mahommed Selim Effendi, to Omar Pasha, and to the other General and Field officers of the army, as well as to their gallant and hardy troops, I have to express my sincerest thanks. My Aide-de-camp Captain Bovill has with great activity and intelligence performed the duties of the Quarter-Master-General's department of two divisions. Lieutenant-Colonel Tahir Bey, and Major Herman of Her Majesty's service (attached to my staff), have in the execution of my orders displayed both zeal and ability. But no services could be more essential than those rendered by Mr. Wood, who, with unabating zeal and activity, and with an admirable degree of management, has obtained the prompt execution of my orders to the mountain chiefs, who, accustomed hitherto to the mere surveillance and defence of their special districts, have for the first time in modern Syrian history been brought to act in perfect accordance for one general and great object, and who have for this purpose, without pay and often without regular rations, gone for many days' marches beyond the frontiers of their proper command; a remarkable and isolated fact due to the personal influence of Mr. Wood, and as much to the devotion displayed by those chiefs to their legitimate master.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) A. JOCHMUS,

Lieutenant-General commanding the Army of Operations.

Sub-Inclosure 29 in No. 175.

Army of Southern Syria.

His Excellency Ahmed Zacharias Pasha,
Seraskier of Syria, Governor-General.

His Excellency Sir Robert Stopford, G.C.B.,
Commander-in-chief by sea and land.

His ExcellencyLieutenant-General Jochmus Pasha,
Commanding the Army of Operations.
His Excellency Lieutenant-General Mehemed Rechid Pasha,
Chief of the General Staff.

His Excellency Lieutenant-General Selim Pasha,
Commanding the 1st Division.
Chalid Pasha, commanding 1st Brigade.
Ali Pasha, commanding 2nd Brigade.

Omer Pasha, General of Brigade on the Staff.

His Excellency Lieut.-General Hassan Pasha,
Commanding 2nd Division.
Ismael Pasha, commanding 1st Brigade.
Emir Pasha, commanding 2nd Brigade.
Riza Pasha, commanding the Regular and Irregular Cavalry.

His Excellency Prince Kasim, Emir Bechir,
Commanding the Irregular Forces.

Regular Forces.

	Men.
Corps of Operation - - -	15,000
Garrison of Acre - - -	3,000
Garrisons of Saida and Beyrout -	1,000
Cavalry—Lancers - - -	150
Tatars - - - -	450
Field Artillery, 30 pieces - -	500
	20,100

Irregular Forces and Levies.

	Infantry.	Cavalry.
Troops of the Emir Bechir	3,000	500
Emirs of Hasbeya and Rasbeya - - -	1,000	200
Other Chieftains, excluding Naplouse - -	6,000	1,500
	10,000	2,200

British Marines and Artillery at Acre and Jaffa - - - - - - 300

Austrian Marines at Beyrout - 200

Djenin, January 5, 1841.

Sub-Inclosure 30 in No. 175.

Egyptian Army in Syria.

His Excellency Ibrahim Pasha,
Commander-in-Chief.

His Excellency Lieut.-General Solyman Pasha,
Chief of the General Staff.
His Excellency Lieut.-General Kourschid Pasha,
Commanding a Division.
Major-General Ahmed Pasha Dramanli,
Commanding the Cavalry.

His Excellency Lt.-Gen. Ahmed Menikli Pasha,
Commanding a Division.
His Excellency Lieut.-General Osman Pasha,
Commanding a Division.
Major-General Hassan Pasha,
Commanding a Brigade of Light Troops.

Return of Forces on the 29th December, 1840, *on leaving the Camp at Damascus.*

REMARKS.	Infantry.	Artillery.	Cavalry.	Irregular Troops.		Annadi Horse.
				Albanian Infantry.	Turkish Horse.	
	22,000	2,000	5,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Loss from Dec. 29, 1840, to Jan. 3, 1841 .	7,000	1,000	None.	None.	2,000	None.
Forces present at El-Mezerib . . .	15,000	1,000	5,000	2,000	None.	2,000

Djenin, January 5, 1841.

Sub-Inclosure 31 in No. 175.

Lieutenant-General Jochmus to Lieutenant-General Selim Pasha.

Sir, *Hasbeya*, Zilkade 1, 1256 / December 25, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I have directed the Emir Bechir Kasim, Emir Standyar of Balbeck, Ahmed Aga-el-Jussuf, and the Emir of the Rasbeya and Hasbeya to follow Ibrahim Pasha with their cavalry and infantry, the moment he leaves Damascus; I have also written this order to Sheik Mahmoud of the Haouran, and to the Bedouin Sheiks of Kusa, Adjelun, Essyatt, and others. These latter will come to Elckizerib and Feik; the moment Ibrahim tries to pass Dejsr Madjuma, all these light troops will continually attack and harass the Egyptian army by day and by night, and in this way they will create great disorder, and give occasion to the soldiers to desert, and to the muleteers to escape with their mules and camels, and leave Ibrahim without means to transport his guns and provisions. I beg now that your Excellency will give similar orders immediately in your Pashalic to the same effect, and order Seid Abdul Ali to collect all his people at Djesr Jakub, the castle of Safed and Djesr Madjuma. Your Excellency will hereby see how necessary it is to send to Safed the four guns of Seid Abdul Ali, and the 100 boxes of ammunition, and 2,500 flints, and 2,000 okes of rice from Acre, together with 10,000 okes of biscuit, if the 20,000 okes are arrived from Beyrout.

It is also very important that your Excellency orders immediately the people of Belled Harté and those of Djebel Nablous to be ready to fall upon Ibrahim Pasha, when he passes by the road from Djesr Madjuma to Djenin and Kakim: as your Excellency has received many muskets, these may all or partly be distributed to the people of Djebel Nablous, and other warlike tribes near them, together with ammunition and flints; but I think it best only to do this when Ibrahim has actually left Damascus, and not before.

With all these people following and harassing Ibrahim, we may hope to do him great injury; and in the meantime, we shall assemble all the regular troops near Acre, and march by Mount Carmel towards Djenin, and defeat the enemy in a general action in the defiles, where his cavalry is of no use, and where we shall have all the mountaineers, besides our regular infantry and artillery.

But before this, I shall come to Acre and concert everything with your Excellency, and we shall go together and fight another action like that of Kalat Maidan, and, please God, the Sultan's standard shall be victorious.

I have written this to your Excellency in the greatest confidence.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) A. JOCHMUS,
Lieutenant-General.

Sub-Inclosure 32 in No. 175.

General Jochmus to Admiral Stopford.

Head-Quarters, Jaffa,
January 17, 1841.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency, that on the 14th instant I directed a division of ten battalions of infantry, 1,800 irregular and Tatar horse, 150 regular cavalry, and 14 pieces of artillery, to march from Ramla towards Gaza.

This latter village is abandoned by the enemy, who has a flying camp of 1,200 regular and 1,800 irregular horse, with eight pieces of horse artillery, at three quarters of an hour's march south of Gaza, whence he

draws his forage and provisions: but ravages, at the same time, the country, carrying off cattle and mules to a great extent from most of the villages south of Ramla.

The object of my movement was the protection of these villages, but principally the destruction of the enemy's provisions at Gaza, in case Ibrahim Pasha, distressed in the Desert, should have struck off south of the Dead Sea towards Gaza.

On the 14th of January the division encamped at Ashdod; on the 15th it could only make a march of three hours to El-Meshdel on account of the incessant heavy rain, which poured down ever since it left Ramla.

Towards the afternoon, a reconnoitring party of the enemy of 500 horse approached the camp; but the Commanding Officer making a very silly manœuvre was taken in flank and rear by about 400 or 500 of our cavalry, who pursued him for two hours, taking between forty and fifty prisoners, and killing and wounding as many. Our loss was about four killed and twelve wounded.

Hearing nothing positive about Ibrahim's immediate approach, and the low country towards Gaza having become a complete marsh by the continued floods of rain up to the 16th in the evening, and the troops having been completely drenched day and night in the bivouacs, I suspended the movement, and sent the infantry and guns to Jaffa, advancing, at the same time, the cavalry detachments to the neighbourhood of Ascalon and some villages towards the river of that name, with their head-quarters at El-Mesde, intending to resume the operations the moment the ground had become practicable; but on my arrival here, informed officially of the complete submission of Mehemet Ali Pasha, and the consequent cessation of the state of rebellion of his army, our troops have been ordered to cease offensive hostilities. His Excellency the Seraskier Ahmed Zacharias Pasha commanded in person since we left Ramla.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) A. JOCHMUS,
Lieutenant-General commanding the Army of Operations.

Sub-Inclosure 33 in No. 175.

General Jochmus to Admiral Stopford.

Sir, *Jaffa, January* 20, 1841, 9 *o'Clock* P.M.

I HAVE this instant received from my Aide-de-camp Baron Dumont, the important news that the expedition of a corps of our light troops under his command, which left Jerusalem on the 9th instant, for Maan, has completely succeeded. Ibrahim Pasha, thinking his depôt deep in the desert, completely safe, neglected to keep a sufficient garrison in the castle, which was only defended by four guns and a few men. Baron Dumont, after six forced marches, arrived at 10 o'clock P.M., on the 14th of January, near the place, and surprised it the next morning, just after the first column of Ibrahim's troops had left it for Suez, and after inducing the people to evacuate the town, burnt the five large magazines which contained Ibrahim Pasha's stores. The column which left Maan for Suez is chiefly composed of all the women, servants, &c., &c., with some troops of escort. The army itself, of which the 2d column was to sleep at Maan, on the 14th, seeing its provisions burnt, had been obliged to countermarch, and is now wandering in the desert, harassed on all sides by the Bedouin tribes. Its state seems to be dreadful, and all over the country through which the Baron Dumont came back to Kerek, he saw the dead bodies of small detachments which had been cut off by the Bedouins.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) A. JOCHMUS,
Lieutenant-General commanding the Army of Operations.

Sub-Inclosure 34 in No. 175.

Baron Dumont's Report to General Jochmus of the Operations against Maan.

(Translation.) (Extract.) *Bivouac, Mountains between Kerek-el-Schoback and Maan, January* 16, 1841,—8 *o'Clock* A.M.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency, that according to your orders, I left Jerusalem on the 9th instant, accompanied by Sheik Abdul Rahman, Habil Cherif, and Hadji Hafiz Bey, the son of the Governor of Jerusalem, with an escort of fifteen Arab horsemen.

By five forced marches, of fifteen to eighteen hours per diem, I arrived near Maan, on the 14th instant, at 10 o'clock P.M., our detachment being then increased by the Sheik's followers to 220 horsemen. I approached an Egyptian bivouac near Maan, to within 150 paces, there being no piquets, guards, or military precaution, and I found that I had before me the first column of the Egyptian forces, escorting the women, harems, &c., &c. The escort consisted only of Hennedy irregular cavalry.

My force not being sufficient to attack, I watched the column till daylight, when it continued its marches by the Suez caravan road, and I entered Maan two hours afterwards. It is a place consisting of about three hundred houses, with chemise of masonry. The magazines were in an old castle, defended by four old iron guns, and twenty Egyptian soldiers. These were killed by my horsemen before I could prevent it, as they were endeavouring to escape. After ordering the towns-people to quit, and communicating your Excellency's orders and instructions to their Sheik, I saw the town evacuated in the space of twelve hours, surmounting the difficulties by money, and promises of presents. The magazines, five in number, I found to contain on inspection,

150 Camel loads of barley,
50 Ditto ditto prepared wheat.
35 Ditto ditto rice.

They were burnt at 3 o'clock in the night of the 14th, 15th January —the private property and stores of the inhabitants having been by that time removed to the mountains, and nothing left in the town.

I took the direction of Aneyi with Sheik Abdul Rahman, and on the 15th at 7 o'clock, after sunrise, I perceived the second column of the Egyptian army, consisting only of about 1,200 camels, and a greater number of mules and other animals of burden, and an irregular cavalry escort, although I had received positive news that it was conducted by Solyman Pasha, and had with it the artillery. My horsemen had seized forty-four camels that belonged to the first column during the preceding night, and I found forty more dead on the road, or in the bivouac, constituting a loss of eighty-four camels in one single night, by my party alone.

The whole of the Arabs of the Desert are pursuing the Egyptian forces.

Sub-Inclosure 35 in No. 175.

General Jochmus to Admiral Stopford.

Head-Quarters, Jerusalem,
Sir, *January* 28, 1841, 8 *o'Clock* P.M.

I HAD the honour to inform your Excellency, in my report of the 17th instant, that in consequence of the official news of the submission of Mehemet Ali, hostilities had ceased on our part from that day, after

the arrival of Hamid Bey, the latter having written to the same purpose to the Egyptian General at Gaza, who received and answered his communication on the 18th. No hostilities had been committed since the defeat of the Egyptian cavalry corps on the 15th instant at El-Meshdel, and our cavalry had ever since maintained the positions which it occupied on the 16th, when I advanced it along the course of the Ascalon river.

By my directions a corps of eight battalions of infantry, and twelve pieces of artillery under Lieutenant-General Hassan Pasha, flanked from Jerusalem our movement towards El-Meshdel, observing by light cavalry the roads north and south of the Dead Sea, by which any Egyptian forces might arrive in Gaza.

On the 14th a corps was reported to have crossed the Jordan and bivouacked (near Jericho) at Reyha. Hassan Pasha encamped at Abugosh, three hours south-west of Jerusalem, marched, towards the evening, on the 15th instant; but the Egyptian division hearing of his approach, immediately recrossed the Jordan with a heavy loss in drowned and killed, the waters of that river having risen more than a foot during the incessant rains of the 14th and 15th of January; and the Arabs falling upon the troops during the passage, and in the nearly impracticable marshes of the valley at the head of the Dead Sea.

The enemy's column above-mentioned proved to be the shattered remains of the corps, called by Mehemet Ali "the Guards," amounting to about 4,000 to 5,000 men, and two cavalry regiments with a battery of artillery, forming the rear-guard of the army under the personal command of Ibrahim Pasha. The artillery and one of the regiments (Cuirassiers) had remained at some distance on the left bank of the river, and the movement was evidently a desperate attempt to march by any way on Gaza or El-Arish.

The forlorn situation of this corps will be seen from the two inclosed reports of Mehemed Rechid Pasha, Chief of the Staff, and of Riza Pasha, commanding the cavalry. I do not estimate the loss of the army so great as the latter, but certainly, after comparing all the reports, it amounts to 1,000 or more men, and eight pieces of artillery, which latter, although with the column at Es-Salt, were unquestionably not at Kerek on the 19th instant, whither Ibrahim had retired after continual skirmishes with the Arabs. The Governor of Jerusalem had sent his son, Hadgi Hafiz, to ascertain whether the artillery has been buried in the desert mountain or not.

Such was the isolated position of this last corps of the Egyptian army, that its Commander-in-Chief had lost all means of communication with his remaining forces, and that, although Hamid Bey and the Commissioners from Egypt were from the 19th to the 23rd at El-Chalil, trying by all means to establish a communication with Ibrahim, either by the north or the south of the Dead Sea, it proved a vain attempt, notwithstanding that, during the same days, the above column under the Pasha was at Kerek, surrounded by the Arabs of the country, who had been reinforced by the tribes of Beni Sackr and Beni Hennedy, arrived from the depth of the desert in consequence of the orders sent them from Jesusalem on the 8th of January, through Baron Dumont.

The distance from El-Mezerib to Kerek is, at the utmost, five days' march. Ibrahim Pasha left the former place on the 6th or 7th of January, and after fifteen days was still at Kerek, having continually marched and counter-marched in the desert mountains in search of food, or from having been stopped in the mountain defiles. According to the statement of the son of the Chieftain of Abugosh, a Captain in the Guards, who deserted on the 21st instant from Kerek, and had been with the column ever since it quitted Damascus and El-Mezerib, Ibrahim marched from the latter place to Bilka, thence back north to Es-Salt, again south to Kerek and back to Jericho; obliged to recross the Jordan he for a second time returned to Kerek, having lost his guns, ammunition, and stores, during the continued and very harassing attacks, day and night, of the Arab bands intent on plunder.

My last reports from El-Chalil of the 28th of January (twenty-two days after Ibrahim's leaving El-Mezerib, and thirty-one after his retreat

from Damascus) state that Hamid Bey, despairing of communicating with Ibrahim Pasha, had resolved to return to Gaza, and thence to Egypt.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) A. JOCHMUS,
Lieutenant-General commanding the Army of Operations.

Sub-Inclosure 36 in No. 175.

Mehemed Rechid Pasha to General Jochmus.

Mon Général, *Jérusalem, le* 22 Zilkadé, 1256. / 17 Janvier, 1841.

J'ARRIVE à l'instant de Reyha, où j'étais pour m'assurer moi-même de ce qui se passait; en effet, Ibrahim y était hier au soir, et il était arrivé le Jeudi; il en est reparti le Vendredi à midi, 15 Janvier. J'ai vu à Reyha les bivouacs de l'ennemi. Le village à été brûlé entièrement. J'ai vu plusieurs déserteurs, qui disent qu'Ibrahim avait sous ses ordres les 1er et 2e régiment de sa garde, et un peu de cavalerie, et ses Gardes de Corps (Cehie honigi). Les troupes ennemies n'ont ni canons, ni munitions de guerre, ni des provisions de bouche.

Je ne puis pas me rendre compte de ces mouvemens de l'ennemi. J'ai réuni les officiers supérieurs chez Hassan Pacha, où nous avons fait venir quelques gens du pays qui connaissent les routes de Mecque, de Chalil, de Gaza, et de Maan. Alors, tant pour protéger Gaza que Chalil, où il se trouve beaucoup de provisions, nous nous sommes décidés de nous rendre à Chalil demain de bon matin avec huit bataillons et les douze pièces de canon. Si l'ennemi veut montrer sa figure, nous tâcherons de lui apprendre de ne pas perdre une seconde fois sa route. Je vous ferai savoir aussitôt que possible, s'il y a d'autres nouvelles.

Je suis, &c.,
(Signé) MEHEMED RECHID.

(Translation.)

General, *Jerusalem,* 22 Zilkadé, 1256. / January 17, 1841.

I HAVE this moment arrived from Reyha, where I have been in order to ascertain in person what was going on: in fact, Ibrahim was there yesterday evening, and had arrived there on Thursday; he left again on Friday the 15th of January, at noon. I saw the bivouacs of the enemy at Reyha. The village has been completely burnt. I saw several deserters, who say that Ibrahim had under his orders the 1st and 2nd Regiments of his Guards, and his body guard (Cehie honigi). The enemy's troops have neither cannon, ammunition, nor provisions. I cannot account for these movements of the enemy. I have assembled the superior officers at Hassan Pasha's, where we have caused some of the country-people to come who know the roads to Mecca, Chalil, Gaza, and Maan. Then, in order to protect Gaza as well as Chalil, where there are a great many provisions, we decided upon proceeding to Chalil early to-morrow morning with eight battalions and the twelve pieces of cannon. If the enemy is disposed to show his face, we shall try to teach him not to lose his road a second time. I will let you know as soon as possible if there is any other news.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) MEHEMED RECHID.

Sub-Inclosure 37 in No. 175.

Report of the Riza Pasha (Commanding the Cavalry) at Jericho, to his Excellency Lieutenant-General Hassan Pasha, at Jerusalem.

(Translation.) *Jericho,* Zilkadé 27, 1256. / January 22, 1841.

ON Thursday, 22d Zilkadé, (14th January, 1841,) Ibrahim Pasha arrived at Richa (Jericho), and called the old Sheik Solyman to him, wanting from him barley, telling him, "If you find what I want, you will be safe; but if you do not, I shall cut off your head." For this reason, the

poor old Sheik showed him one or two wells full of barley, which Ibrahim took and distributed to his troops. After this, he set the town on fire, taking the sheep and other animals from the town and neighbourhood. Ibrahim remained there that night, and sent towards Jerusalem about 100 horsemen, but on the road, these were informed that there were four or five Pashas with a large body of troops at Jerusalem. Upon hearing this news, the horsemen went back and informed Ibrahim that it was impossible to advance, and that if they did so, they would be cut to pieces. Hereupon, he ordered all his troops to recross the river (Jordan), but while they were passing, the Arabs fell upon them, and many men were killed or drowned in the river; and most of the troops which got across, dispersed in the direction of the Damascus road, and Ibrahim, with the remainder, went to Kerek; but on the road he lost all his infantry, and arrived at Kerek with only cavalry. Ibrahim Pasha left some guns at Es-Salt.

A true Translation.
(Signed) Tahir Bey.

Sub-Inclosure 38 in No. 175.

General Jochmus to Admiral Stopford.

Head Quarters, Jaffa,
January 30, 1841.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Excellency the terms granted by the Ottoman authorities for the entire evacuation of Syria.

Since the arrival of Hamid Bey and the English Commissioner, Lieutenant Loring, Royal Navy, on the 17th instant, it has been deemed advisable, after a general Council held at these head-quarters, to come to the resolution on the part of the Imperial authorities, that no obstacle should be offered to the retreat of any Egyptian force south of the Dead Sea, but that any march north of that lake must be preceded by the surrender of guns and arms, leaving it optional to embark any sick, wounded, and women, at Caiffa or Gaza.

In order to impart the due consistency to this resolution, twenty-one battalions of infantry and eighteen pieces of artillery were concentrated at Jerusalem, and 2,000 cavalry at El-Chalil with reserves at Ramla.

I had transferred my own head-quarters to Jerusalem, whence I returned yesterday; Ibrahim Pasha having left Kerek and being far beyond the Dead Sea, but the Arabs of the Desert swarm round him on all sides, and I have not as yet been able to ascertain his present situation.

Hamid Bey, Major Wilbraham, and Selim Bey (the Turkish Commissioner), after fruitless attempts to communicate with the Pasha, have returned to Gaza.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) A. JOCHMUS,
Lieutenant-General commanding the Army of Operations.

Sub-Inclosure 39 in No. 175.

[See Sub-Inclosure 19 in No. 175.]

Sub-Inclosure 40 in No. 175.

General Jochmus to Admiral Stopford.

Head-Quarters, Jaffa,
February 2, 1841.

Sir,

I HAD the honour to inform your Excellency, in my despatch of the 30th of January, that the Commissioners of England, Turkey, and Egypt not being able up to that day to communicate with Ibrahim Pasha, had returned to Gaza. Omar Pasha and Captain Arbuthnot, Royal Navy, sent on a similar errand, had been equally unsuccessful.

At last, on the 31st of January, intelligence was received at Gaza, that the Egyptian Commander-in-Chief was within a day's march of that place, still pursued by the Arabs, who had not left him a moment's quiet since his defeat near Jericho on the 15th ultimo. On the 31st he entered Gaza with the remains of the guards and some irregular troops to the following amount:—

Three regiments of guards (infantry), 3,500 men.
One regiment of cuirassiers, one ditto lancers, 600 horses.
Irregular infantry, - - - - 500 ,,
Hennedy irregular horse - - - 40 ,,

This force was in a most deplorable state, having wandered in the mountains of the Desert in search of food for the last seventeen days since their recrossing the Jordan, Ibrahim being away from Damascus thirty-four days. Colonel Rose of Her Britannic Majesty's service, who went to meet Ibrahim, told me that an oke, or two pounds and three-quarters, of mule or camel's flesh, was sold at thirty to forty piastres, or eight shillings English, and that the Pasha's own horses were without barley the last two days. The three regiments of guards on their leaving Damascus were 8,000 strong, and the two regiments of cavalry 1,200, making a loss of these corps alone, who were the élite of the army, of 4,500 infantry and 600 cavalry.

The different columns which from the 21st to the 25th of January had preceded the arrival of Ibrahim at Gaza were as follows:—Under Ahmed Menikli Pasha, regular cavalry, 2,400; irregular cavalry, 300: under Kourschid Pasha, under Dramanli and others, 11,000 infantry and irregulars, and 600 regular cavalry: which, with 4,640 men arrived under Ibrahim Pasha, and about 3,000 artillery and irregular troops, gone under Solyman and Ismael Pashas to Cairo, escorting the two convoys of artillery, and women, civil employés, and others, form a total of 22,000 men; constituting, in conformity with my previous reports, a loss of 18,000 men and forty-two guns since Ibrahim Pasha left Damascus with 40,000 men and 150 guns.

The inclosed general return will give to your Excellency a complete tableau of the enormous losses of the Egyptian army since the opening of the campaign, amounting to 63,000 men, 619 garrison guns, and 148 field-pieces.

The forces of Mehemet Ali in Syria have always been very much and purposely overrated. I have never estimated his actual army above 75,000 effectives and 10,000 non-effectives, and the losses on the same scale: were it otherwise, the glory of the Sultan's and Allied arms would only be enhanced; for at the opening of the campaign there were in the field, of regular forces about 9,000 men, at the period of the taking of Acre about 16,000 men,—and the army at present in Southern Syria amounting to 18,000 infantry, 3,500 regular cavalry, 3,000 irregular horse, and thirty pieces of field artillery.

The enthusiasm of the gallant Syrian population for their legitimate Sovereign has done the rest.

In the above estimates are not included the 3,200 horse and 600 infantry and artillery forming the division of El-Arish, which arrived and encamped near Gaza during the month of December last.

The sufferings of the remains of Ibrahim Pasha's own army have been dreadful. Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson, in his reports from Gaza to Colonel Bridgeman, states that the infantry arriving from the Desert had been seven days nearly without any food, and full three days without water; and the two Turkish Staff Officers who served for three days as safe-guard to the cavalry columns of Ahmed Menikli Pasha, represent his force as in the most exhausted state. The loss of cavalry horses has at least been 2,000. Baron Dumont's prisoners made before the 17th of January, had then already been living for four and six days upon camel's flesh. The number of those who will be embarked at Gaza as *hors de combat* will be very great, and the whole matériel of the army being completely ruined, it cannot in its present state be considered anything but an armed mass, the only force that approaches to order being the cavalry.

The artillery, when last seen by Baron Dumont, after the taking of Maan, was not any longer transported by draught as it was when it left Damascus; but as many guns had been drawn by oxen, cows, and buffaloes, this column found the means of subsistence by killing these animals, and was thus enabled to continue its march by the route of Maan, while the other columns of the army, after the magazines of Maan had been emptied by the Bedouins and the remains burnt, were obliged to countermarch, and come back upon Gaza by isolated tracts, and completely destitute of all military array.

The straight road from Maan to Cairo is about four days, every station having water for the wants of the large pilgrim caravans; the circuit by Gaza and El-Arish is twenty-three days through deserts, one-half of which is destitute of water.

Without the Convention and the arrival of the Commissioners of Peace, the fate of the isolated columns of Ibrahim's army could not have been doubted, arriving as it did at long intervals, and in isolated columns from each other, at nearly the very head-quarters of the Imperial army, ready to move at a moment's notice.

The final operations of this campaign are marked by two distinct features: after a forced retreat from Damascus, the Egyptian General was compelled at El-Mezerib to abandon his original intention of passing through Palestine to El-Arish, on which line, according to the inclosed return, he would have found 2,797,775 rations for troops, and 271,980 rations of forage.

He was offered battle at Djenin and declined it, preferring the risk of a march through the Desert.

The general insurrection of the Bedouins, and the destruction of the stores at Maan, obliged him a second time to change his route, falling from the caravan road into the heart of the wilderness.

His artillery having gone by the prescribed line of march, the remains of his army, henceforth routed and isolated columns, without array, ammunition, or guns, without reciprocal communications, could have offered no effectual resistance against a general movement of the Turkish army, whose cavalry had come into line from the north, and its choice would have been surrender or starvation in the Desert.

Such are the advantages of strategical combinations over mere fighting, that the effective loss of 18,000 men and the complete disorganization of the Egyptian army has not cost 100 men, *hors de combat*, to its antagonists.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) A. JOCHMUS,
Lieutenant-General.

Sub-Inclosure 41 in No. 175.

RETURN OF STORES on the projected Egyptian Line of March through Palestine.

Magazines of	Wheat p. ardeb.	Barley p. ardeb.	Prepd. Wheat p. ardeb.	Maize p. ardeb.	Butter p. ardeb.	Oil p. oke.	Olives p. oke.	Biscuit p. oke.
Tiberias and Safed	2,400	3,900	700	182	280	—	—	—
Jaffa and Loud	848	2,633	—	1,737	400	1,249	1,246	22,000
Ramla	3,569	533	—	1,162	—	176	—	—
Total	6,817	7,066	700	3,081	680	1,425	1,246	22,000

N.B.—One ardeb is 105 okes. One oke is $2\frac{3}{4}$ pounds English weight.

CALCULATION OF PROVISIONS AND FORAGE.

		Rations.	
Wheat, at $\frac{1}{2}$ an oke per ration	6,817 ardebs =	2,113,270	Besides oil, butter, and olives.
Maize, at 1 oke per ration	3,081 „ —	342,505	
Wheat, prepared for ready use	700 „ —	217,000	
Biscuit at $\frac{1}{2}$ an oke per ration	22,000 okes —	44,000	
		2,797,775 rations for Troops.	
Barley, above mentioned, at $3\frac{1}{2}$ okes p. ration	7,066 ardebs —	211,980	
——— at Djenin	„ „ 2,000 „ —	60,000	
		271,980 rations of Forage.	

True Copy, CHARLES CHURCHILL.

Jaffa, January 20, 1841.

Sub-inclosure 42 in No. 175.

GENERAL RETURN of the LOSSES of the EGYPTIAN ARMY under His Excellency IBRAHIM PACHA since the landing of the ALLIED FORCES at Djuni, 10th September, 1840, to the evacuation of Syria via Maan and Gaza, or up to the 31st January, 1841, being the day of the arrival of IBRAHIM PACHA.

PERIODS.	EFFECTIVE COMBATANTS.				TOTAL of Effective Combatants.	NON-COMBATANTS.	GENERAL TOTAL.			TOTALS of ARMY.
	REGULAR ARMY.		IRREGULAR FORCES.				ARMY.	Guns and Field Pieces.		
	Infantry and Artillery.	Cavalry.	Infantry.	Cavalry.				Garrison Guns.	Field Pieces.	
	Effective Officers Rank and File.	Effective Officers Lances and Sabres.	Effective Officers and Firelocks.	Effective Officers Lances and Sabres.		Military Administration, Musicians, Military Servants, Sick in Hospital, &c. &c.				
10th September, 1840. Forces in Syria, under Ibrahim Pacha.	58,000	7,000	5,000	5,000	75,000	10,000	85,000[a]	619[b]	270[b]	
Loss of Troops and Guns up to the concentration of the Forces at Damascus, December 1840.	34,000	2,000	3,000	1,000	40,000	5,000	45,000[c]	603	120	Loss to 30th Dec. 1840.
Idem from the evacuation of Damascus to the evacution of Syria, 31st January, 1841.	12,000	2,000	100	2,100	16,200	2,300	18,500	16[e]	28[e]	Loss since the retreat from Damascus.
Total loss of the Army.	46,000	4,000	3,100	3,100	56,200	7,300	63,500	619	148	Total loss.
Returning to Egypt by Gaza and Maan.	12,000	3,000	1,900	1,900	18,800	2,700	21,500	None.	122[f]	Remaining.

RECAPITULATION.

	Men.	Garrison Guns.	Field Pieces.
Total Egyptian Force at the opening of the Campaign, 10th Sept. 1840 -	85,000	619	270
Total loss to 31st January, 1814 - - - - - - - - -	63,500	619	141
Ditto returning to Egypt by Maan and Gaza - - - - -	21,500	None	122[g]

[g] Of this latter Force only 12,000 Infantry, 3,000 Horse, 122 guns are of the Regular Army.

This Return does not include the fresh Division come from El Arish to the south of Gaza, in December last, and composed of from 1,000 to 1,200 Regular Cavalry, 2,200 Irregular Cavalry, and 600 Infantry and Artillery.

A. JOCHMUS,
Lieutenant-General.

W. J. FREESTUN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Head Quarters, Jaffa, 2nd February, 1841.

[f] In case there were at Damascus, concentrated, 250 Field Pieces, there remain 222 Field Guns, but this is highly improbable.

The 100 Field Guns taken at Acre were those lost at the battle of Nezib.

[d] It has been said that the Field Artillery at Damascus was 250, but this is exaggerated, as in general the Egyptian accounts have always been.

[e] Loss of Guns since leaving Damascus.

	Garrison Guns.	Field Pieces.
Castle of Damascus	12	
Maan -	4	
From Damascus to El Mezirib - - ...		20
From El Mezirib to Kerek - - ...		8
Total -	16	28

REMARKS.

[a] These 85,000 men do not include muleteers, camel-drivers, civil employés of the Government in Syria, their servants, women, harems, &c., &c.

It may be estimated that from 15 to 16,000 of these classes left Damascus at the retreat.

[b] Distribution of Guns.

	Garrison Guns.	Field Guns.
Seida - - -	20	
Beyrout - - -	30	20
North of Syria and lines of the Taurus - -	200	
Acre - - -	300	100
Castle of Damascus -	12	
Field Artillery concentrated at Damascus -	..	150[d]
Jerusalem - - -	20	
Jaffa - - - -	33	
Maan - - - -	4	
Total...	619	270

[c] Distribution of loss up to the end of December 1840,

Sent prisoners to Cyprus and Constantinople - - -	16,000
Killed and dead - - - -	4,000
Turks and Syrians deserted to their homes in Syria and Asia Minor	25,000
Total -	45,000

Sub-Inclosure 43 in No. 175.

General Jochmus to Admiral Stopford.

Head Quarters, Jaffa,
February 6, 1841.

Sir,

THE Chief of the Staff of this army, Mehemed Rechid Pasha, now at Gaza, having reported to me, that the Egyptian authorities maintain (verbally) that the Arabs of the Desert, who have pursued Ibrahim Pasha as far as Gaza, have secret orders still to harass him notwithstanding the Convention, I beg to transmit to your Excellency a copy of my letter to his Excellency Ibrahim Pasha on this subject, by which it will be perceived that orders to cease hostilities have been given on our part ever since the arrival of Hamid Bey and the other Commissioners of Peace.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) A. JOCHMUS,
Lieutenant-General commanding the Army of Operations.

Sub-Inclosure 44 in No. 175.

General Jochmus to Ibrahim Pasha.

Monsieur le Général, *Quartier-Général de Jaffa,* 1 Février, 1841 / 10 Zilkadé, 1256

APRES l'heureuse terminaison de la guerre en Syrie, je regrette d'apprendre que quelques Arabes du Désert continuent de harasser vos troupes. C'est au moins ce qu'on dit, car je n'ai pas de nouvelles officielles.

Il y a quinze jours, et immédiatement après l'arrivée de Hamid Bey, que tant son Excellence le Séraskier Ahmed Zacharias Pasha que moi ont donné partout des ordres précis de cesser les hostilités, et Hassan Pacha, commandant du côté du Djebel Khalil et du Désert, a non seulement agi d'après ces ordres, mais il a donné un sauf-conduit aux troupes sous le Général Ahmed Ménikli Pacha, pour les conduire à Gaza, en empêchant les Chéiks voisins de guerroyer.

Toutefois, pour persuader votre Excellence de notre entière bonne foi et notre désir sincère de faire cesser cette malheureuse guerre, j'envoie au quartier-général de votre Excellence deux officiers Autrichiens, M. le Comte Szechenyi et le Baron Dumont, munis d'ordres sévères pour les Chéiks Arabes. Son Excellence le Séraskier écrira dans le même sens à votre Excellence ce soir ou demain.

En attendant, je me permets de recommander à l'accueil bienveillant de votre Excellence, M. le Comte Szechenyi, parent de son Excellence le Prince Metternich, et M. le Baron Dumont, qui tous les deux se proposent de visiter l'Egypte, et qui pour cela m'ont demandé comme une faveur d'être choisis pour être porteurs de cette lettre, afin d'avoir l'honneur d'être présentés à votre Excellence.

Heureux, si les affaires me le permettaient d'avoir moi-même l'avantage de voir votre Excellence, je n'ai pour le présent cas que la prier d'agréer l'expression de hommages avec laquelle j'ai, &c.,

(Signé) A. JOCHMUS,
Lieutenant-Général commandant l'Armée d'Opérations.

(Translation.)

General, *Head-Quarters,* 10 Zilkadé, 1256. / February, 1, 1841.

AFTER the happy termination of the war in Syria I regret to learn that some of the Arabs of the desert continue to harass your troops. This is what is said at least, for I have no official account.

A fortnight ago, and immediately after the arrival of Hamid Bey, both the Seraskier Ahmed Zacharias Pasha and myself gave everywhere precise orders to cease hostilities, and Hassan Pasha, commanding on the side of Djebel Khalil and the Desert, has not only acted upon these orders, but has given a safe conduct to the troops under the General Ahmed Menikli Pasha to take them to Gaza, preventing the neighbouring Sheiks from molesting them.

At all events, in order to convince your Excellency of our entire good faith, and of our sincere desire to bring this unhappy war to an end, I send to your head-quarters two Austrian officers, Count Szechenyi and Baron Dumont, furnished with strict orders for the Arab Chiefs. His Excellency the Seraskier will write in the same sense to your Excellency either to-night or to-morrow.

In the mean while, I take the liberty of recommending to your Excellency's favourable notice Count Szechenyi, a relation of his Excellency Prince Metternich, and Baron Dumont, who both propose visiting Egypt, and who for that reason have requested of me as a favour to be selected as bearers of this letter, in order to have the honour of being presented to your Excellency.

Happy if the state of affairs allowed me to have myself the advantage of seeing your Excellency; I have only at present to request you to accept the assurances, &c.

(Signed) A. JOCHMUS,
Lieutenant-General commanding the Army of Operations.

Sub-Inclosure 45 in No. 175.

General Jochmus to Commodore Napier.

Imperial Head-Quarters, Jaffa,
Sir, *February* 8, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd February, by which you inform me that several frigates and transports have been sent to embark the remains of the Egyptian army at Gaza.

There exists neither on the part of his Excellency Ahmed Zacharias Pasha, Seraskier of Syria, nor on my own, any objections to this measure, as it hastens the evacuation of Syria; there existed, however, before the actual arrival of these transports, a very serious one, because we could not have sanctioned any delay under the possibly vain pretext that the Egyptians were waiting for transports, and consequently would not have moved by land in the mean time.

I am not aware that any difficulties have been raised by the Turkish authorities, in the way of the execution of the Convention or arrangement sanctioned by the Allied Powers and the Sublime Porte; but Ibrahim Pasha having *de facto* evacuated Syria, and being thrown into the Desert ever since the 6th January, when he quitted El-Mezerib, it certainly could not be contemplated by any Convention stipulating the evacuation of Syria, that it embraced also the eventuality of his returning into the country, particularly in the mode he attempted at Jericho on the 14th and 15th of January, putting to fire and sword all the neighbourhood.

It is to me a matter of real concern, that false reports, intentional or not, should have made you erroneously suppose that this army was destined to make any hostile movement on the remains of the Egyptian troops. If such had been the intention I should not have waited for a concentration of troops at Gaza, but should have attacked them as they arrived at long intervals, in isolated columns, from the Desert, in the most helpless state.

If the Turkish authorities had really contemplated hostilities, an easy and valid excuse would have been found in the fact, that Ibrahim Pasha had already by two days exceeded the term of evacuation, granted on the 30th of January for only seven days.

After acquainting you, Sir, with these circumstances, I cannot any further be responsible for reports arising from the visions of terrified imaginations at Gaza.

The Turkish authorities consulting the British officers at these head-quarters, have duly considered, in a General Council, your letter of the 11th of January, and such instructions as they possess from other official sources in the present state of affairs in the Levant. Their proceedings have been made known both to his Excellency Admiral Sir Robert Stopford, and to the Sublime Porte. They accept without hesitation the consequences of their former resolutions, and of that taken to-day, to permit the embarkation of a corps of infantry at Gaza, notwithstanding that neither Sir R. Stopford's orders, nor those of his Excellency Mazloum Bey, specify anything about the embarkation of armed bodies on any part of the Syrian coast, granting only this favour to women, children, sick, and wounded men.

The brilliant services which you, Sir, rendered in this memorable war, have not been bestowed on a worthless cause, and the proceedings of the Ottoman Commanders and authorities are not so extravagant as they are deemed at Alexandria. They are (notwithstanding a momentary impression to the contrary, founded on illusion) in conformity with the existing treaties, in conformity with the customs of civilized nations, in conformity with the laws of humanity, in conformity with the interests of the Sublime Porte, and, ranging higher than all these considerations, they are in conformity with the military point of honour.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) A. JOCHMUS,
Lieutenant-General commanding the Army of Operations.

Sub-Inclosure 46 in No. 175.

Captain Houston Stewart to Colonel Bridgeman.

British Head-Quarters, Jaffa,
Sir, *February* 14, 1841.

THE evacuation of Syria by the Egyptians being now almost effected, I beg to represent to you the propriety which in my opinion exists for the Royal Marine Artillery being withdrawn from Sidon, and my reasons for forming this opinion are simply these:—

1st. My knowledge of the Admiral's intention that they should be taken to Marmorice so soon as the officer commanding the British forces ceased to entertain any fears for the safety of Sidon.

2ndly. The circumstance of the plague having made its appearance at Sidon, happily but in one case as yet, although now it is reported to be severe at Tyre; and foreseeing as I do much painful embarrassment should any of the Royal Marine Artillery detachment be attacked by that disease.

3rdly. The necessity which I am under, in obedience to instructions, of sending all the vessels of war at present under my orders, to rejoin the flag at Marmorice so soon as Syria is clear of the Egyptian troops, leaving only the "Hecate" steam-vessel at your disposal; whilst, by taking advantage of the presence of the "Magicienne," the whole detachment with their field equipage could embark in that vessel, the "Hazard" taking away the small remnant of the marine detachment still at St. Jean d'Acre.

Should you entertain any doubt of the removal of the Royal Marine

Artillery being approved of, I feel myself quite justified, from the communications I have had with Sir R. Stopford, Sir C. F. Smith, and the late General Michell, to tender to you my earnest advice to do so, taking, as I readily do, my full share of any responsibility which may be incurred thereby.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) HOUSTON STEWART,
Captain of Her Majesty's ship "Benbow," and Senior Officer on the Coast of Syria.

Sub-Inclosure 47 in No. 175.

Colonel Bridgeman to Captain Houston Stewart.

British Head-Quarters, Jaffa,
February 15, 1841.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, representing the propriety which exists in your opinion for the removal of the Royal Marine Artillery from Sidon to the fleet. The evacuation of this country by the Egyptian army, the often repeated wishes of the Admiral Commanding-in-Chief, and the impression on my mind that it was the intention of the late Brigadier-General Michell to permit of their being so withdrawn, so soon as the posture of Syrian affairs would admit, must, of course, very much influence my judgment; but, at the same time that I take upon myself the responsibility of assenting to their removal, I must confess that I much regret to find by your letter, that we are also to be deprived of the presence of the several ships of war now on the coast, with the exception of the "Hecate" steamer. As, however, in the event of an extension of the plague along the coast, it would be impossible, with one steamer only, to embark the Royal Artillery at Beyrout as well as the Royal Marine Artillery at Sidon, I must consider the absence of any ship of war as an additional reason for a diminution of the force.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) E. H. BRIDGEMAN,
Colonel Commanding.

Sub-Inclosure 48 in No. 175.

General Jochmus to Admiral Stopford.

Head-Quarters, Jaffa,
February 15, 1841.

Sir,

FROM the despatches and returns which I had the honour to address to your Excellency on the 2nd and 3rd instant, it will have been perceived that the amount of the remains of Ibrahim Pasha's retiring army, was 18,800 combatants and 2,700 non-combatants, making a grand total of 21,500 men of all arms, regulars and irregulars.

From all the reports and returns which I have since received from my Turkish and European Staff-Officers, most of whom were sent to ascertain their numbers, I find that this estimate requires no alteration and is perfectly correct.

The remains of the Egyptian cavalry preserve some military order. The rest of the troops returned from Syria are utterly disorganized, and the daily losses from disease in consequence of excessive fatigue, amounted daily to 50 or 60 between the camp of Gaza and El-Arish.

It is extraordinary that the casualties should not be more numerous, considering the sufferings in the Desert, and the fact that whole regiments have been actually living for whole days on the grass and herbs of the wilderness.

For more than ten days the only rations issued to most of the columns, were two or three camels for each regiment on the march.

Ibrahim Pasha himself is very ill, and has sent for an English physician to their head-quarters. Dr. Robertson is gone to attend his Excellency.

I do not suppose, according to the annexed estimate, that out of the whole of the remaining 21,500 men, more than one-half, or about 11,000, will be borne again on the strength of the Egyptian army.

I have calculated the probable loss of the march from Maan to Gaza into Egypt, and the amount of desertion when arrived in Egypt, at only 4,000 men. If it be considered that a great proportion of the now remaining troops are married men, who did not desert in Syria because their wives and children went *viâ* Maan, but who will desert on the very first occasion that offers in Egypt, the above estimated reduction will be found very moderate, the more so, as there are about 2,000 irregular Hennedy Horse who have pillaged Syria during ten years, and are averaged to carry from 15,000 to 20,000 piastres' worth in horses, arms, and money, back into Egypt, all of whom will go to their homes.

The last Egyptian troops have now left Gaza. In all, there were embarked, up to the 13th instant, about 3,000 sick, wounded, and others *hors de combat*, with some women, and the skeletons of some infantry regiments; about 3,000 more men waited till to-day to embark, and were prevented by the surf.

The rest went by land to Egypt *viâ* El-Arish.

It may be calculated that out of the débris of the former Syrian army and the regular troops still in Egypt, Mehemet Ali, or any future Pasha of Egypt, may re-form a peace establishment of 20,000 to 25,000 effective soldiers. Such a force may also be maintained in the long run without too heavy charges, out of a population amounting at present from 1,800,000 to 2,000,000, of which the permanent soldiery would form $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent., and would eventually afford an accession of strength to the Turkish Empire. The larger rival military power on the banks of the Nile, now fortunately broken in its most essential elements, would have been only a seed of destruction in the Ottoman dominions.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) A. JOCHMUS,

Lieutenant-General commanding the Army of Operations.

Sub-Inclosure 49 in No. 175.

Estimate of the Effective Force of Ibrahim Pasha's Army, returned to Egypt, and fit for further service.

Head Quarters, Jaffa, February 10, 1841.

DISTRIBUTION.		Total of Regular and Irregular Forces, according to the General Returns of February 2, 1841.		Grand Total.
		Effective Combatants.	Non-Combatants.	
Returning to Egypt by Gaza and Maan . .		18,800	2,700	21,500
Embarked at Gaza and sent to El-Arish for embarkation, on mules and camels as hors de combat	3,000			
Died of disease at Gaza and El-Arish during the last 20 days, in consequence of excessive fatigue, at the rate of 50 men per day	1,000			
Deserted during that time . . .	500			
Turks and Syrians to be sent back to Syria and Constantinople	2,000			
Probable loss on the march by the Desert to Cairo, and estimated desertion when arrived in Egypt	4,000			
	10,500	8,600	1,900	10,500
Remain fit for further service . . .		10,200	800	11,000

Approved, (Signed) A. JOCHMUS,
Lieutenant-General.
J. FREESTUN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Sub-Inclosure 50 in No. 175.

Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson to Colonel Bridgeman.

Sir, *Jaffa, February* 19, 1841.

HAVING this moment arrived from Gaza, I have the honour to report to you, that his Excellency Ibrahim Pasha embarked there yesterday afternoon; and during the night, the garrison, consisting of about 800 men, also embarked on board the Egyptian steamer "Hadji Baba," for Damietta; and that on his Excellency getting under weigh this morning, the whole of the remaining cavalry, consisting of one regiment of cavalry of the guard, and one of cuirassiers, with two camps of irregular cavalry, marched from El-Arish, thus completing the evacuation of Syria by the Egyptian troops.

I met a regiment of Turkish cavalry on the road to Gaza, to take possession of it in the name of the Sultan; and the new Governor was, I understood, expected in the course of the day.

The number of Egyptian troops, therefore, which have marched, and embarked from Gaza, consists of 29,000 regular troops, and 4,000 irregular ditto; including infantry, cavalry, and sick.

In addition to these, must be taken into consideration the column which went by the Desert with the women, artillery, and detachments from every regiment for the protection of their sick and baggage, and said to exceed 4,000 men.

A very considerable number of women and children have also both marched and embarked from Gaza, not included in this statement.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) R. C. ALDERSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding the Royal Engineers.

No. 176.

Lieutenant Aldrich to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 13.)

Head-Quarters, Jaffa,
My Lord, *January* 23, 1841.

I REGRET I have to inform you, by the desire of Brigadier-General Michell, that he is at present totally incapable of writing in consequence of severe suffering from fever and ague. He hopes, however, in a few days to be so far recovered as to have the honour of addressing your Lordship in detail, with reference to the events which have occurred in this country since his last despatch to you from Acre of the 31st December, 1840.

Colonel Bridgeman, I regret to say, is equally unwell with the Brigadier-General from fever and ague.

I am commanded to acquaint you of the arrival here, on the 17th instant, of Lieutenant Loring of Her Majesty's ship "Carysfort," bringing despatches from Commodore Sir Charles Napier, dated Alexandria, 10th January, 1841, announcing the favourable conclusion of his Treaty with Mehemet Ali. Lieutenant Loring was accompanied by Hamid Bey, an Egyptian officer, the bearer of orders to Ibrahim Pasha from his father to evacuate Syria immediately. On the same day these officers, with a staff officer from the Seraskier and Major Wilbraham from the British head-quarters, as soon as horses and an escort could be procured for them, proceeded by Jerusalem to Ibrahim Pasha's camp. On the 21st instant, in consequence of the arrival of a Turkish despatch, Lieutenant-Colonel Colquhoun of the Royal Artillery and Captain Arbuthnot of the Royal Navy followed those officers as British Commissioners, with the guarantee from his Excellency the Seraskier, Brigadier-General Michell, and from Captain Houston Stewart, Her Majesty's ship "Benbow," that the divisions of the Egyptian Army retreating into Egypt should be protected and assisted, to cause as little delay and loss of life as possible.

Captain Arbuthnot came here on the 20th instant, in Her Majesty's sloop "Dido."

The Brigadier-General commanding further desires me to acknowledge his receipt of your Lordship's despatches to the 15th of December.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) EDWARD ALDRICH,
Lieutenant, Assistant Military Secretary.

No 177.

Sir John Barrow to Lord Leveson.

My Lord, *Admiralty, March* 13, 1841.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, to send you herewith, for the information of Viscount Palmerston, copies of a letter from Admiral the Honourable Sir Robert Stopford, dated the 1st of March last, and its accompanying letter from Lieutenant Loring, reporting his proceedings relative to the evacuation of Syria by the Egyptian troops.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN BARROW.

Inclosure in No. 177.

Admiral Stopford to R. More O'Ferrall, Esq.

Sir, *Malta, March* 1, 1841.

REFERRING you to my letter of this date, by "Prometheus," *viâ* France, I beg now to inclose the copy of Lieutenant Loring's letter, alluded to in Commodore Sir Charles Napier's letter of the 21st ultimo.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) ROBERT STOPFORD,
Admiral.

Sub-Inclosure in No. 177.

Lieutenant Loring to Commodore Napier.

Sir, *Gaza, February,* 17, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that in pursuance of your orders, dated Alexandria, January 10, 1841, I accompanied Hamid Bey in the steam-vessel "Generoso" to Acre; and having learnt from the authorities there, that the head-quarters of the Allied forces were established at Jaffa, proceeded to that place by land, the state of the weather rendering it improbable that disembarkation could be effected on the exposed beach.

We arrived on the morning of the 17th of January, and I immediately delivered to General Michell and Captain Stewart the despatches which you did me the honour to intrust to my care. By their recommendation we proceeded, as soon as the means of travelling could be procured, to Jerusalem, Major Wilbraham and Selim Bey accompanying us; the former by the order of General Michell, the latter by that of the Seraskier, carrying also a letter to his Highness Ibrahim Pasha, and an order to all Turkish Authorities and Arab Sheiks to assist and forward us on our route.

Arriving at Jerusalem at 10 A.M. the following morning, we learnt that Hassan Pasha, with 8,000 men and six pieces of artillery, had marched southward the day before, by Bethlehem and El-Chalil, to cut off the retreat of the Egyptian army, supposed then to be in the neighbourhood of Kerek and retiring on Gaza.

Anxious, from the spirit of your instructions, to prevent any hostile collision between the two armies, we hastened on, and were fortunate in overtaking the Turkish Pasha at El-Chalil in time to prevent his further advance; and he was soon afterwards induced to retire on Jerusalem, which place had been left unprotected by this forward movement.

By the advice of Hassan Pasha, and under the protection of an Arab Sheik, we proceeded towards the ford of the Jordan; but, when in the neighbourhood of Engaddi, obtained information which caused the immediate alteration of our course southward, passing along the Dead Sea to the tents of Abdul Rahman, the Sheik of the El-Chalil district: here we were much disappointed at finding that, notwithstanding the order of the Seraskier, and although he came direct from the presence of the Pasha, by whom he had been sent to meet us, he at once refused to accompany us, or to assist our advance.

As we were already acquainted with the impossibility of penetrating this wild country, without the active assistance of the Sheiks, (as the Arab hordes, caring for neither friend nor foe, were collected in considerable force to plunder the rear of the retreating army,) we were obliged most reluctantly to turn our steps westward, and reached Gaza on the night of January 22, where we found that Ahmed Menikli Pasha had arrived the day before with the main body of the cavalry, and that the infantry were expected very soon in three divisions, Ibrahim Pasha himself bringing up the rear.

At the request of Hamid Bey, I immediately left for Jaffa, to represent to General Michell and the Authorities there the obstructions which we had met with from the Sheik Abdul Rahman, and also to complain, on the part of Ahmed Pasha, that the Arabs were still carrying on active hostilities; and from him to request that the Turkish General should either himself suppress such irregularities, or permit the Egyptian troops to employ force.

The death of the late lamented General Michell took place the morning after my arrival at Jaffa; but as soon after as circumstances would admit, Captain Stewart and Rechid Pasha proceeded to Gaza in the "Hecate" to regulate such differences. Availing myself of the same opportunity, I returned to Gaza, and rejoined Hamid Bey and Major Wilbraham at Soumecha, where I found they had again been foiled by the Sheik Abdul Rahman, and we a second time returned to Gaza, where Ibrahim Pasha arrived on the afternoon of Sunday, January 31.

I have since been employed, according to your orders, in co-operation with Colonel Alderson of the Royal Engineers, in seeing the evacuation of Syria by the Egyptian army carried into effect; and I have now the honour to acquaint you, that the whole of the troops have either marched for El-Arish, or have embarked for Damietta on their way to Cairo.

I subjoin as accurate an estimate of the troops which have left Gaza *en route* for Egypt, as I have been able to procure; the numbers are under rather than over rated. The irregular cavalry and the Arabs of Hennadi I have found it quite impossible to count. Several Egyptian officers have named them at 10,000; but I think there can hardly have been so many.

A division of 5,000 men with 175 pieces of artillery, under the command of Solyman Pasha, are reported to have marched from El-Mezerib on January 9, by the way of Maan to Suez and Cairo.

Regular infantry which have marched .	9,200	
Irregular or Arnaouts	1,400	
Sick and feeble who have been embarked	3,900	
Regular infantry	8,250	
Irregular or Arnaout	800	
	——	23,550
Regular cavalry which have marched . .	6,300	
Horse artillery	140	
	——	6,440
Total		29,990

I have, &c.,
(Signed) WILLIAM LORING,
Lieutenant Royal Navy.

P.S.—I have omitted to mention the garrison of Gaza, amounting to nearly 600 men, and which have been embarked in the last steamer from Gaza.

No. 178.

Colonel Bridgeman to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 13.)

British Head-Quarters, Jaffa,
January 26, 1841.

My Lord,

FROM a letter addressed to your Lordship by Lieutenant Aldrich, the Assistant Military Secretary to the late Brigadier-General Michell, dated the 23rd of January, you will be led to expect a detailed report of the proceedings in Syria, from the time of the last despatch, dated the 31st of December, 1840. As therefore I am sufficiently recovered from an attack of fever, with which I have been confined for some days,

I take the earliest opportunity of embodying and transmitting to your Lordship all the information which I can obtain from the sources at my command.

On the 29th of December, 1840, Ibrahim Pasha personally and finally evacuated Damascus, marching upon El-Mezerib. The city was shortly afterwards occupied by the irregular cavalry in the Sultan's service, and His Imperial Highness formally proclaimed. The Egyptian army halted at El-Mezerib on the 3d and 4th instant, and on the 5th, was supposed to have moved on the Desert road in four divisions. The force may then have amounted to about 30,000 men, but no positive information on this head has been obtained. Your Lordship is aware, that up to the 31st of December, (the date of the last despatch which you will have received from General Michell,) the latest instructions to Lieutenant-General Jochmus, as well as to the officer commanding the British forces, from Lord Ponsonby, directed a continuance of offensive operations against the Egyptian army. Acting up to the spirit of these orders, Lieutenant-General Jochmus, on the 5th of January, broke up his cantonments at Sidon and at Tyre, and with a portion of the garrison of St. Jean d'Acre, mustering in all twenty battalions of infantry, moved with his artillery and a small force of cavalry upon Jaffa and Ramla. This induced a corresponding movement of a part of the British force, and on the 6th instant, Brigadier-General Michell and his head-quarters in the "Vesuvius" and "Hecate" steam-vessels with 100 marines, and Lieutenant-Colonel Colquhoun's detachment of Royal Artillery with their guns and stores from St. Jean d'Acre, proceeded to, and landed at Jaffa on the 7th. Lieutenant-Colonel Higgins's detachment of the Royal Artillery with his guns and stores, and a small detachment of the Royal Sappers and Miners, were directed also to embark at Beyrout, in Her Majesty's ship "Magicienne," on the 6th of January, and rejoined the Head-Quarters at Jaffa on the 11th. His Excellency the Seraskier, and Lieutenant-General Jochmus, (the latter of whom had been for some days making a reconnoissance in the neighbourhood of Hasbeya, and thence to Jerusalem,) arrived at Jaffa on the 9th. On the 12th instant, Lieutenant-General Jochmus proposed a movement upon Gaza, in which the Seraskier and Rechid Pasha were induced to acquiesce. Brigadier-General Michell, and Captain Houston Stewart of Her Majesty's ship "Benbow," the senior naval officer on the coast (and who had been at the British Head-Quarters from the 29th of December,) opposed and objected to the operation, from political as well as from military reasons. On the evening of the 12th, Lieutenant-General Jochmus and the Seraskier proceeded to Ramla, and on the 13th, Brigadier-General Michell, with his staff-officers, joined the Turkish Head-Quarters at the above-named village. The attack upon Gaza being positively resolved upon, General Michell deemed it his duty to accompany the Turkish force, and assist the operation to the utmost of his power. In furtherance of this object, Captain Houston Stewart proceeded on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Vesuvius" on the 14th instant, and with a reinforcement of one subaltern and fifty marines from the Jaffa garrison, the "Hecate" steamer accompanying, ran down the coast for the purpose of co-operating, as events might dictate, with the land forces. The Turkish troops halted on the 13th at Ashdod, where, according to preconcerted arrangements, they were to have been joined by eight battalions from Jerusalem, under Rechid Pacha. This combined operation failed, however, as General Michell had foretold. Rechid Pasha, having been already two hours on his march towards Ashdod, received reports of Ibrahim Pasha's movements, which induced him to return forthwith to Jerusalem.

On the 14th, Lieutenant-General Jochmus (the Seraskier also being still present with the army) halted at Mejdill, three hours' march from Gaza. A copy of Lieutenant-General Jochmus's report of this operation, addressed to Sir Robert Stopford, is inclosed, (Inclosure 1.) As an allusion is made in this report to an affair with the enemy's cavalry who had advanced in some numbers upon Meshdel, I hope your Lordship will pardon me for reporting to you the very spirited conduct of Colonel Rose, who, whilst heading a charge of a party of irregular cavalry, was wounded; but I am

happy to say, it has not turned out to be of a serious nature. He has in consequence been recommended by the Seraskier to the Imperial Government for a Turkish order.

I would also venture to mention to your Lordship, from my own personal observation, that during the pursuit (and the retreat was executed by the enemy in admirable order), British officers were with the most advanced troops, cheering on the irregular cavalry; and that on relinquishing the pursuit, having driven the enemy six or seven miles from our camp, our advance being then considerably inferior to the Egyptians, who had retired upon their reinforcements, the British officers were on the spot ready to assist in any further attack or pursuit. Major Wilbraham was present from the commencement of the affair, and we were joined by Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson of the Royal Engineers, and by Major Robe, and Mr. Crawford, a Midshipman of Her Majesty's ship "Benbow," who had for some time past been staying at our Head-Quarters with Captain Stewart. These officers having been sent to Ascalon to ascertain whether the steam-vessels were in sight, heard the firing on their return, and quickly joined the Turkish advanced troops.

On the 16th instant, the Turkish infantry and artillery returned by the sea-coast from Meshdel to Jaffa. General Michell reached Jaffa the same day, and the "Vesuvius" and "Hecate" steamers also returned to their anchorage, and disembarked the marines, having found it impossible to communicate with, or even to approach, the Gaza coast, in consequence of the severity of the weather. On the following morning, the 17th, Lieutenant Loring, of Her Majesty's ship "Carysfort," accompanied by Hamid Bey, arrived at Jaffa, the bearers of the Convention concluded at Alexandria by Commodore Napier. A report of this is made to your Lordship in Lieutenant Aldrich's letter addressed to you on the 23d instant. For further explanation of the notification here of the ratification of this Convention, I forward a letter (Inclosure 2) from Commodore Napier, addressed to General Michell. Inclosure 3 is a letter consequently transmitted to Ibrahim Pasha by Brigadier-General Michell and Captain Houston Stewart, and despatched to the Head-Quarters of the Egyptian army by Major Wilbraham. Inclosure 4 is the copy of a letter addressed to the Commandant at Gaza.

On the 20th inst. a Council of War was held, at which the absolute necessity of abstaining from all offensive measures against the Egyptian army was advocated and enforced. Inclosure 5 is a copy of Lieutenant-General Jochmus's protest at the termination of the council, and Inclosure 6 is a letter also addressed to the Council by Mr. Wood. On the 21st, Lieutenant-General Jochmus left Jaffa for Jerusalem, and by perusing the inclosed letter (Inclosure 7) from him to the Seraskier, your Lordship will be made acquainted with his position in that City. The staff-officers being all variously employed, Lieutenant-Colonel Colquhoun of the Royal Artillery was requested to proceed with Captain Arbuthnot to Jerusalem, on the 21st, with the instructions contained in Inclosures 8 and 9; and on the 22nd, at the request of the Seraskier, another officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson, Royal Engineers, proceeded to Gaza; his instructions are embodied in Inclosure 10.

I have thus endeavoured to furnish your Lordship with as complete a summary of the occurrences which have taken place from the date of Brigadier-General Michell's last despatch to the day of his death, as my means will admit of. If I have trespassed too much upon your Lordship's time, I trust I shall be pardoned.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) E. H. BRIDGEMAN,
Colonel commanding the British Forces in Syria.

P.S.—I have omitted to acquaint your Lordship that Zacharias Pasha, the new Seraskier Pasha, and the successor of Izzet Pasha, arrived at Beyrout on the 19th of December, from whence, as I have already mentioned in my letter, he reached Jaffa on the 9th of January.

Inclosure 1 in No. 178.

[See Sub-Inclosure 32 in No. 175.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 178.

Commodore Napier to General Michell.

Her Majesty's Ship "Carysfort,"
Alexandria, January 10, 1841.

Sir,

THE bearer of this letter is charged by me (agreeably to the orders of Sir Robert Stopford, in consequence of directions from Lord Palmerston, to carry my Convention into effect) to proceed with Hamid Bey to the head-quarters of Ibrahim Pasha, and to deliver to him the order of Mehemet Ali, for the immediate evacuation of Syria.

It is Sir Robert Stopford's directions that every facility is to be given for the embarkation of the sick, the wounded, the women, and children, and others of the Egyptian Army at Kaiffa.

But it appears to me (if there is no objection, of which I cannot be a judge here) they may be permitted to embark at any other place, if more convenient.

The officer charged with despatches to Ibrahim Pasha will necessarily consult with him and with you on this point as well as the officer who is charged to see the evacuation carried into effect.

It is needless to observe, that as Mehemet Ali has made his submission to the Porte and is reinstated in the Pashalic of Egypt, it is of the utmost importance that Ibrahim should not only not be disturbed in his evacuation, but should be protected and assisted in every manner, so as to cause as little loss of life as possible.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) CHARLES NAPIER,
Commodore.

Inclosure 3 in No. 178.

[See Sub-Inclosure 8 in No. 175.]

Inclosure 4 in No. 178.

[See Sub-Inclosure 9 in No. 175.]

Inclosure 5 in No. 178.

[See Sub-Inclosure 13 in No. 175.]

Inclosure 6 in No. 178.

[See Sub-Inclosure 14 in No. 175.]

Inclosure 7 in No. 178.

[See Sub-Inclosure 16 in No. 175.]

Inclosure 8 in No. 178.

[See Sub-Inclosure 10 in No. 175.]

Inclosure 9 in No. 178.

[See Sub-Inclosure 11 in No. 175.]

Inclosure 10 in No. 178.

[See Sub-Inclosure 12 in No. 175.]

No. 179.

Colonel Bridgeman to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 13.)

British Head-Quarters, Jaffa,
February 2, 1841.

My Lord,

IN my despatch dated the 26th of January, 1841, I had the honour to lay before your Lordship a summary of events to the date of Brigadier-General Michell's death, and I now resume the subject, and shall endeavour to place your Lordship in full possession of the several occurrences which have subsequently taken place.

In the despatch of the 23rd of January, 1841, your Lordship was informed that, on the 17th of January, Major Wilbraham, accompanied by Lieutenant Loring, Royal Navy, Hamid Bey, and a Staff-Officer of the Seraskier Pasha's, left this place for Jerusalem, with orders to proceed thence to the head-quarters of Ibrahim Pasha. These officers, after a long and fruitless expedition by the southern extremity of the Dead Sea, turned westward to Gaza, hoping there to obtain some accurate information of Ibrahim Pasha's line of march. From thence Lieutenant Loring returned to this place on the 23rd, bringing us the news of the arrival there, on the 22nd, of the advanced guard of Ibrahim Pasha's army under the command of Ahmed Pasha. Major Wilbraham on the same day again left Gaza with Hamid Bey for El-Khalil, from whence on the 25th, in company with Hamid Bey, Omar Pasha the Turkish General, and Captain Arbuthnot, (with whom he had fallen in at El-Khalil,) he proceeded to the Pass of Suera, through which it was expected Ibrahim Pasha would retire to Gaza.

In order to satisfy ourselves of the good faith of the Generals of the Egyptian army, and at the same time to afford them every possible assurance that the retreat of their army would be not only protected, but favoured and assisted to the utmost of our power, (they having expressed a slight distrust in consequence of some movements of the Turkish troops at El-Khalil,) Captain Stewart, accompanied by Rechid Pasha, Lieutenant Loring, Royal Navy, and Colonel Rose, embarked on the 25th on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Hecate," and landed early on that day at Gaza. They were at the same time to urge the speedy evacuation of that place, and the retirement to the Egyptian frontiers of the troops which were daily arriving. I also instructed Colonel Rose (so soon as he should be provided with a sufficient Turkish escort, taking with him an Egyptian officer of rank) to proceed on the route by which Ibrahim Pasha would most probably approach Gaza, and secure him, as far as possible, from any act of aggression on the part of the Bedouin Arabs, or other irregular troops. From the tenour of Lieutenant-General Jochmus's protest transmitted to your Lordship in my despatch of the 26th ultimo, and from the letter of Mr. Wood, addressed to the Seraskier Pasha and

to the President of the Council, your Lordship will observe that there has been a manifest disposition to harass Ibrahim Pasha's retreat.

On the 24th of January, (the day before Captain Stewart proceeded to Gaza,) a Council was held at the Seraskier Pasha's, at which Captain Stewart and Colonel Rose were present. On leaving the Council, they were under the full impression that all intention of offensive operations against Ibrahim Pasha was abandoned, and that the Convention would be acted up to with sincerity and good faith. With the greatest surprise, therefore, Captain Stewart ascertained subsequently, in the course of conversation with Rechid Pasha, that notwithstanding this supposed decision of the Council, orders had been sent to General Jochmus to act upon Ibrahim Pasha's line of retreat, and to throw every impediment in his way, but to abstain from any direct attack. These orders were given under the impression that Ibrahim Pasha's force was very considerably reduced as to numbers, and in a completely disorganized state.

The very large and comparatively effective force, however, which (so contrary to their general assumption of the almost entire disorganization of the Egyptian army in the desert) was concentrated at Gaza, had in the mean time considerably influenced Rechid Pasha, and convinced him that coercive measures against Ibrahim Pasha were hopeless. He returned, therefore, forthwith to Jaffa, arriving here on the morning of the 26th. Captain Stewart having written me word of the discovery he had made from Rechid Pasha of the transmission of orders by the Council for the discomfiture of the Egyptian retiring force, I immediately proceeded to the Seraskier Pasha's, where Rechid Pasha placed in my hands the very letter, which, as he assured me, had been written by him with the consent of the Council to General Jochmus, but which he found had not been sent. I strongly protested against the course they had adopted, by which the honour of the British name and of the Turkish cause would so assuredly have been compromised, as being so directly at variance with the assurances which Captain Stewart and Colonel Rose had made to Ahmed Pasha, and I received the most positive declaration that no hostile movements of any nature should be made, and that every possible assistance should be given to the Egyptians. To reiterate these assurances personally to Ahmed Pasha, Rechid Pasha returned on the 28th of January to Gaza. The Seraskier Pasha and Rechid Pasha also proposed the removal of 17 battalions of infantry from Jerusalem to Ramla, of 2,000 irregular cavalry to Ashdod, and of two regiments of irregular cavalry to reinforce a small advanced post of Lancers at Meshdel. To the removal of the 17 battalions from Jerusalem to Ramla as purely a defensive measure, and consequent upon the parallel movement of Ibrahim Pasha's troops upon Gaza, I did not object, nor did I to the addition of the two regiments of regular cavalry, merely suggesting that they should be stationed at Ashdod instead of Meshdel, as being a connecting link with Jaffa and Ramla, and further removed from the Egyptian cantonments at Gaza; but I did object, and was obliged strongly to protest, before I gained my point, against the advance to Ashdod of any irregular troops. These forces are under little or no control, and would, in all probability, have taken the first opportunity of placing themselves upon the line of march of any isolated Egyptian column, and of committing the same excesses as the Bedouin Arabs, from whose attacks (and they pay but little respect to either Turkish or Egyptian flag) we were doing all in our power to secure the Egyptian force.

On the 29th of January I received from Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson, who still remained at Gaza in communication with Ahmed Pasha, the Note of which a copy is inclosed (Inclosure 1), and which he and Captain Stewart had obtained from Ahmed Pasha and the other Egyptian Generals, exchanging with them all possible assurance of good faith in the execution of the Convention. Inclosure 2 is the partial affirmation of this document by the Seraskier Pasha, Lieutenant-General Jochmus, and the Moustechar Effendi; and Inclosure 3 is the copy of my letter to Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson, in which it is transmitted. Major Wilbraham and his companions ceased not, in the mean time, to prosecute their search, and

were twenty-four hours in the desert without water; all their exertions were, however, fruitless, and it was not until the 31st of January, that Colonel Rose (in consequence of information obtained from some deserters of Ibrahim Pasha's column) was enabled to ascertain his exact line of march. On the morning of that day he came up with Ibrahim Pasha about twenty miles from Gaza, on the route from the southern extremity of the Dead Sea; and having delivered to him a copy of Mehemet Ali's instructions for the evacuation of Syria, accompanied him to Gaza. This morning Colonel Rose and Captain Stewart returned from thence, and the former officer has placed in my hands the inclosed translated copy of a Note addressed to the Seraskier Pasha by Ibrahim Pasha, with which the Seraskier has expressed himself as satisfied. From the reports I have received, it would appear that the Egyptian force which has reached Gaza, amounted to about 15,000 infantry and 6,000 or 7,000 cavalry. Of the former, 2,000 men are stated to have been sent to El-Arish before the arrival at Gaza of Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson: subsequently, six regiments of regular cavalry, amounting to about 2,400 men, and 1,200 irregular cavalry, have also retired; and Captain Stewart is decidedly of opinion, that the evacuation will be performed without any unnecessary delay, and that within a fortnight not an armed Egyptian will remain in Syria. But whilst the wind remains in its present quarter, it is impossible either to land the biscuit for the troops, which they must carry with them on their homeward march, or to embark the women, the sick, and the wounded.

Colonel Rose having had some personal communication with Ibrahim Pasha, and being enabled to afford further information, I have ventured to direct him to proceed in Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Vesuvius," to carry my despatches to Admiral Sir Robert Stopford and to Lord Ponsonby, returning, so soon as he has delivered them, to the head-quarters of our force. I purpose proceeding to Gaza on the 5th instant.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. H. BRIDGEMAN,
Colonel Commanding the British Forces in Syria.

P.S.—Probable Turkish force in Southern Syria:—regular infantry 18,000; regular cavalry 3,500; rregular cavalry 3,000; irregular infantry of the Lebanon and Naplouse, 10,000.

Inclosure 1 in No. 179.

[See Sub-Inclosure 18 in No. 175.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 179.

[See Sub-Inclosure 19 in No. 175.]

Inclosure 3 in No. 179.

[See Sub-Inclosure 20 in No. 175.]

Inclosure 4 in No. 179.

[See Sub-Inclosure 21 in No. 175.]

No. 180.

Lieutenant-Colonel Napier to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 13.)

My Lord, *Alexandria, February* 2, 1841.

I TAKE the liberty of inclosing to your Lordship the copy of a despatch I sent to-day to the officer in command of the British force in Syria, as it is likely to reach England long before you could receive the same intelligence from our head-quarters, at present at Jaffa.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) E. E. NAPIER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Assistant Adjutant-General to the Forces in Syria.

Inclosure in No. 180.

Lieutenant-Colonel Napier to Colonel Bridgeman.

Sir, *Alexandria, February* 2, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that after my audience with his Highness Mehemet Ali, on the 25th ultimo, (with the result of which I made you acquainted,) I went in quest of Commodore Napier, whom I met with a short distance from Cairo, and returned with him to Alexandria.

With respect to the departure of the Syrians, the Commodore informs me, that although no mention was made of them in the Convention, it was perfectly understood that those who did not wish to accompany Ibrahim's army voluntarily to Egypt, were to be left at Gaza; but Commodore Napier is of opinion, that should you entertain any suspicion of its being intended to employ them against Ibrahim's retreating force, they had better be allowed to accompany him to Egypt, or to be disarmed.

I inclose a copy of the Convention, and mention the Commodore's request, that you use your utmost endeavours to prevent a collision between the Turks and the Egyptians.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) E. E. NAPIER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 181.

Mr. Consul Moore to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 13.)

My Lord, *Beyrout, February* 17, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of my letter of the 13th to the Commanding Officer of Her Majesty's naval forces on the coast of Syria, and to inform your Lordship, that in consequence thereof, Captain Stewart arrived here last night, from Jaffa, by the "Vesuvius" steamer.

Mr. Wood, to whom I wrote on the subject, accompanied by Hoossein Pasha, is also come for the purpose of enquiring into, and preventing a recurrence of, the disorders committed by the Albanian troops in the service of the Porte.

The Seraskier, at Mr. Wood's desire, likewise left Jaffa for Beyrout, immediately on the receipt of my letter, for the same object.

Ibrahim Pasha was to embark from Gaza, as soon as the state of the weather would permit, and I conclude, that by this time his Highness must be at sea, on his way to Alexandria, as the weather is now favourable.

The "Hecate" is hourly expected here, with positive information to that effect; and your Lordship will doubtless be informed, by this opportunity, through other channels, of Ibrahim Pasha's embarkation.

In Mr. Wood's opinion, the capture of Ibrahim Pasha and his shattered army was a certainty, had not the news of the Convention caused the suspension of operations against him.

The "Vesuvius" has brought up the marines, and the corps of artillery, from Jaffa; and Colonel Bridgeman and staff are expected here, without delay.

Solyman Pasha, with his division, had arrived at Akaba.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) N. MOORE.

P. S.—I beg to inclose a duplicate copy of the Note addressed to the Seraskier, by myself and colleagues collectively, on the 11th instant, upon the subject of the disorders committed by the Albanians.

I am happy to say, that in consequence of the measures taken, the demeanour of the Albanians has been much more orderly, and the public mind greatly tranquillized within the last two days.

Inclosure 1 in No. 181.

Mr. Consul Moore to Captain Houston Stewart.

Sir, *Beyrout, February* 13, 1841.

I WRITE, in the greatest haste, to acquaint you with the arrival, two days ago, in this town and neighbourhood, of a corps of about 2,000 Albanians.

Disorders and outrages of the most revolting description have marked their passage along the coast, from Tripoli to Beyrout.

Notwithstanding my strongest remonstrances to the contrary, these troops have been allowed to occupy houses in the neighbourhood, (from which the inhabitants have been expelled,) and to encamp in numbers, close to the town.

Only last night, the Spanish Vice-Consul was fired upon by one of these assassins, whilst at the door of his own residence. Providentially, the pistol missed fire.

I have the honour to inform you, that Captain Henderson, at my request, accompanied me this morning to the Governor's, where, in a conference with the Turkish Commandant, we insisted, in the strongest terms, on the immediate removal, from the town and neighbourhood, of the Albanians; but both these functionaries are evidently under the influence of fear, and we have not been able to attain the object of our interview.

Such is the consternation that has seized the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, that public criers have called the people to arms, for the protection of their families and property.

Allow me, Sir, to call your immediate attention to this state of things; the town is evidently in the power of these brigands, as neither the Governor or Commandant dare issue orders for their removal.

I have already written to the Seraskier on the subject. I beg to refer for details, which time will not allow of my entering into, to Captain Henderson, to whom my warmest thanks are due, for the zeal and energy with which he has seconded my representations to the Authorities here.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) N. MOORE.

P. S.—It is equally necessary that the neighbourhood should be protected, and nothing short of the total removal of these people will calm the ferment their presence has created.

The Governor has published an order, requiring all the women and children to shut themselves up on the approach of the Albanians; and the

people from the country, in the greatest terror, began to remove their effects into the town.

Considering how absolutely ruinous to many poor people this removal would be, the general disorder it would create, and the bad effects it would produce throughout the country generally, where it is above all things necessary, at the present moment, to inspire confidence, and give stability to the new Government, I induced the Governor, by strong remonstrances and representations of the impolicy of such a proceeding, to withdraw his order for the sequestration of the women and children, and to publish a counter notice, assuring every one of perfect security.

Having assumed so grave a responsibility by the above measure, which I conceived the interests of the Ottoman Government required, I feel most anxious to redeem the pledge which I have thus given for the general security, and which nothing can ensure but the removal of the Albanians from the country, where there is no necessity whatever for their presence.

Inclosure 2 in No. 181.

Note to the Seraskier by the Consuls of the Allied Powers.

Beyrout, le 11 *Février*, 1841.

LES Soussignés, Consuls des Puissances Alliées de la Sublime Porte, s'empressent d'appeler l'attention de Son Altesse le Séraskier Pacha sur les désordres commis en dernier lieu par quelques corps de troupes qui viennent de pénétrer dans cette partie de la Syrie. Le pillage et les violences qu'ils ont exercés sur leur passage ont répandu la terreur parmi les habitans; dans plusieurs localités ces derniers ont eu recours aux armes pour la défense de leurs habitations et de l'honneur de leurs familles; si une collision sérieuse n'a pas encore éclaté, on ne saurait l'attribuer qu'à la modération et la prudence des habitans, et surtout à leur fidélité et leur dévouement au Gouvernement de Sa Hautesse,—sentimens dont ils viennent de donner des preuves si éclatantes.

Une nouvelle expédition de troupes irrégulières vient d'arriver à Beyrout. Les réclamations des Soussignés, et la sollicitude du Gouverneur, ont empêché leur entrée en ville; toutefois les campagnes environnantes sont en proie aux plus vives alarmes.

Témoins de cet état de choses, les Soussignés se bornent à signaler l'imminence du danger; ils aiment à espérer que les ordres nécessaires seront immédiatement donnés pour l'éloignement de ces troupes, dont la présence parait tout-à-fait inutile dans cette partie de la Syrie, et menace de compromettre les intérêts de la Sublime Porte. Ils s'attendent également à ce que des mesures efficaces soient prises, afin de réprimer le renouvellement de ces désordres, et de rassurer la population.

En s'acquittant ainsi d'un devoir qui leur est imposé par les dispositions mêmes de leurs Gouvernemens respectifs envers la Sublime Porte, ainsi que par l'humanité, les Soussignés s'empressent d'offrir à Son Altesse l'assurance de leur considération très-distinguée.

(Signé) N. MOORE,
Consul d'Angleterre.
P. LAURELLA,
Consul d'Autriche.
J. CHASSEAUD,
Consul de Prusse.
C. BASILY,
Consul de Russie.

(Translation.)

Beyrout, February 11, 1841.

THE Undersigned, Consuls of the Powers Allies of the Sublime Porte, hasten to call the attention of his Highness the Seraskier Pasha to the disorders lately committed by some bodies of troops which have just penetrated into this part of Syria. The pillage and the violence which they have committed on their passage, have spread terror among the inhabitants; in several places the latter have had recourse to arms for the defence of their habitations and the honour of their families; if a serious collision has not already taken place, it is only to be attributed to the moderation and prudence of the inhabitants, and, above all, to their fidelity and their devotion to the Government of His Highness, feelings of which they have just given such striking proofs.

A fresh detachment of irregular troops has just arrived at Beyrout. The representations of the Undersigned and the care of the Governor have prevented their entrance into the city; however the surrounding country is a prey to the greatest alarm.

The Undersigned, being witnesses of this state of things, confine themselves to pointing out the imminence of the danger. They hope that the necessary orders will immediately be given for the removal of the troops, whose presence appears entirely useless in this part of Syria, and threatens to compromise the interests of the Sublime Porte. They also expect that effective measures will be taken in order to put down any recurrence of these disorders and to tranquillize the population.

In thus fulfilling a duty which is imposed upon them, as well by the dispositions of their respective Governments towards the Sublime Porte, as by humanity, the Undersigned hasten to offer to his Highness the assurance of their most distinguished consideration.

(Signed) N. MOORE,
Consul d'Angleterre,
P. LAURELLA,
Consul d'Autriche,
J. CHASSEAUD,
Consul de Prusse,
C. BASILY,
Consul de Russie.

No. 182

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 14.)

My Lord, *Paris, March* 12, 1841.

I HAD an interview this morning with M. Guizot. His Excellency read to me the greater part of a despatch which he had addressed to M. Bourqueney in reply to the confidential communication which your Lordship had made to the French Chargé d'Affaires, regarding a project of Convention to be signed by France, as well as by the other Great Powers of Europe.

This despatch, in its essential points, corresponded with the language which I, on Monday last, stated to your Lordship, the French Minister had held to me on this subject. M. Guizot then read to me a second despatch which he had written to the Baron de Bourqueney on Tuesday last, after having received intelligence from M. Cochelet of the refusal of Mehemet Ali to accede to the conditions of the Sultan's firman, reappointing Mehemet Ali, Pasha of Egypt. M. de Bourqueney is in this despatch directed to suspend the execution of the instructions previously sent to him, which were founded upon the assumption (contained in Protocols confidentially communicated to him by your Lordship), that the question between the Sultan and Mehemet Ali had been finally concluded. But M. Guizot said to me, that, whenever it was clearly established that

the Treaty of July was a *fait accompli*, the French Government would send full powers to their Representative in London, to sign a Convention, such as had been proposed to M. de Bourqueney by your Lordship. His Excellency made no observations upon the rigorous conditions imposed upon Mehemet Ali by the Sultan; but he said that his despatches from Constantinople stated, that Colonel Hodges had expressed disapprobation of the evasive mode of granting hereditary succession to Mehemet Ali; and that those from M. Cochelet stated that Commodore Sir Charles Napier had given his opinion that Mehemet Ali could not accept the conditions of the Sultan's firman.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 183.*

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, March* 16, 1841.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency a draft of a Protocol of a Conference between the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain, Austria, Prussia, Russia, and the Sublime Porte; and a draft of a Convention between Great Britain, Austria, France, Prussia, and Russia, on the one part, and the Sublime Porte on the other part; which have been provisionally agreed to by the respective Plenipotentiaries, and which Her Majesty's Government hope will soon be signed by those Plenipotentiaries.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 183.

Draft of Protocol.

LES difficultés dans lesquelles Sa Hautesse le Sultan s'est trouvé placé, et qui l'ont déterminé à réclamer l'appui et l'assistance des Cours d'Autriche, de la Grande Bretagne, de Prusse, et de Russie, venant d'être applanies, et Méhémet Ali ayant fait envers Sa Hautesse le Sultan l'acte de soumission que la Convention du 15 Juillet était destinée à amener, les Représentans des Cours signataires de la dite Convention ont reconnue, qu'indépendamment de l'exécution des mesures temporaires résultant de cette Convention, il importe essentiellement de consacrer, de la manière la plus formelle, le respect dû à l'ancienne règle de l'Empire Ottoman, en vertu de laquelle il a été de tout tems défendu aux bâtimens de guerre des Puissances étrangères d'entrer dans les détroits des Dardanelles et du Bosphore.

Ce principe étant par sa nature d'une application générale et permanente, les Plénipotentiaires respectifs, munis à cet effet des ordres de leurs Cours, ont été d'avis, que pour manifester l'accord et l'union qui président aux intentions de toutes les Cours dans l'intérêt de l'affermissement de la paix Européenne, il conviendrait de constater le respect dû au principe susmentionné, au moyen d'une transaction à laquelle la France serait appelée à concourir, à l'invitation et d'après le vœu de Sa Hautesse le Sultan.

Cette transaction étant de nature à offrir à l'Europe un gage de l'union des Cinq Puissances, le Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique ayant le Département des Affaires Etrangères, d'accord avec les Plénipotentiaires des Quatre autres Puissances, s'est chargé de porter cet objet à la connaissance du Gouvernement Français, en l'invitant à participer à la transaction, par laquelle, d'une part, le Sultan déclarerait sa ferme résolution de maintenir à l'avenir le susdit principe; de l'autre

* A similar despatch was sent to the Marquess of Clanricarde, Lord William Russell, Lord Beauvale, and Earl Granville.

les Cinq Puissances annonceraient leur détermination unanime de respecter ce principe et de s'y conformer.

(Paraphé) E. N.
P.
B.
B.
C.

(Translation.)

THE difficulties in which His Highness the Sultan was placed, and which decided him to apply for the support and the assistance of the Courts of Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia, being now removed, and Mehemet Ali having made towards His Highness the Sultan the act of submission which the Convention of the 15th of July was designed to bring about, the Representatives of the Courts, parties to the said Convention, have considered that, independently of the execution of the temporary measures resulting from that Convention, it is of essential importance to record in the most formal manner, the respect which is due to the ancient rule of the Ottoman Empire, in virtue of which it has at all times been prohibited for Ships of War of Foreign Powers to enter the Straits of the Dardanelles and of the Bosphorus.

This principle being from its nature one of general and permanent application, the respective Plenipotentiaries, provided with the orders of their Courts to this effect, have been of opinion that, in order to manifest the agreement and union which regulate the intentions of all the Courts in what concerns the maintenance of the peace of Europe, it would be proper to record the respect which is due to the above-mentioned principle, by means of an arrangement in which France should be invited to concur, at the invitation, and agreeably to the wish, of the Sultan.

This arrangement being calculated to afford to Europe a pledge of the union of the Five Powers, Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, agreeably to an understanding with the Plenipotentiaries of the Four Powers, undertook to bring this matter to the knowledge of the French Government, requesting it to take part in an arrangement by which, on the one hand, the Sultan should declare his firm resolution to maintain for the future the above-mentioned principle; the Five Powers, on the other hand, should announce their unanimous determination to respect that principle and to conform themselves thereto.

(Initialed) E. N.
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Inclosure 2 in No. 183.

Draft of Convention.

LEURS Majestés l'Empereur d'Autriche, Roi de Hongrie et de Bohème, le Roi des Français, la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, le Roi de Prusse, et l'Empereur de toutes les Russies, persuadées que leur union et leur accord offrent à l'Europe le gage le plus certain de la conservation de la paix générale, objet constant de leur sollicitude; et leurs dites Majestés voulant attester cet accord en donnant à Sa Hautesse le Sultan une preuve manifeste du respect qu'elles portent à l'inviolabilité de ses droits Souverains, ainsi que de leur désir sincère de voir se consolider le repos de son Empire; leurs dites Majestés ont résolu de se rendre à l'invitation de Sa Hautesse le Sultan, afin de constater en commun, par un Acte formel, leur détermination unanime de

se conformer à l'ancienne règle de l'Empire Ottoman, d'après laquelle le passage des détroits des Dardanelles et du Bosphore doit toujours être fermé aux bâtimens de guerre étrangers, tant que la Porte se trouve en paix.

Leurs dites Majestés d'une part, et Sa Hautesse le Sultan de l'autre, ayant résolu de conclure entre elles une Convention à ce sujet, ont nommé à cet effet pour leurs Plénipotentiaires; savoir:

Sa Majesté l'Empereur d'Autriche, Roi de Hongrie et de Bohème, &c. &c.;

Sa Majesté le Roi des Français, &c. &c.;

Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, &c. &c.;

Sa Majesté le Roi de Prusse, &c. &c.;

Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies, &c. &c.;

Et Sa Majesté le très Majestueux, très Puissant, et très Magnifique Sultan Abdul Medjid, Empereur des Ottomans, &c. &c.

Lesquels, s'étant réciproquement communiqué leurs Pleins Pouvoirs, trouvés en bonne et due forme, ont arrêté et signé les Articles suivans:

ARTICLE I.

Sa Hautesse le Sultan, d'une part, déclare qu'il a la ferme résolution de maintenir à l'avenir le principe invariablement établi comme ancienne règle de son Empire, et en vertu duquel il a été de tout tems défendu aux bâtimens de guerre des Puissances étrangères d'entrer dans les détroits des Dardanelles et du Bosphore; et que, tant que la Porte se trouve en paix, Sa Hautesse n'admettra aucun bâtiment de guerre étranger dans les dits détroits.

Et leurs Majestés l'Empereur d'Autriche, Roi de Hongrie et de Bohème, le Roi des Français, la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, le Roi de Prusse, et l'Empereur de toutes les Russies, de l'autre part, s'engagent à respecter cette détermination du Sultan, et à se conformer au principe ci-dessus énoncé.

ARTICLE II.

Il est entendu, qu'en constatant l'inviolabilité de l'ancienne règle de l'Empire Ottoman mentionnée dans l'Article précédent, le Sultan se réserve, comme par le passé, de délivrer des firmans de passage aux bâtimens légers sous pavillon de guerre, lesquels seront employés comme il est d'usage au service des légations des Puissances amies.

ARTICLE III.

Sa Hautesse le Sultan se réserve de porter la présente Convention à la connaissance de toutes les Puissances avec lesquelles la Sublime Porte se trouve en relation d'amitié, en les invitant à y accéder.

ARTICLE IV.

La présente Convention sera ratifiée, et les ratifications en seront échangées à Londres à l'expiration de mois, ou plus tôt si faire se peut.

En foi de quoi, les Plénipotentiaires respectifs l'ont signée, et y ont apposé les sceaux de leurs armes.

Fait à Londres le de l'an de grâce mil huit cent quarante et un.

(Paraphé) E. N.
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(Translation.)

THEIR Majesties the Emperor of Austria, King of Hungary and Bohemia, the King of the French, the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the King of Prussia, and the Emperor of all the Russias, being persuaded that their union and their agreement offer to Europe the most certain pledge for the preservation of the general peace, the constant object of their solicitude; and their said Majesties being desirous of testifying this agreement by giving to the Sultan a manifest proof of the respect which they entertain for the inviolability of his sovereign rights, as well as of their sincere desire to see consolidated the repose of his empire; their said Majesties have resolved to comply with the invitation of His Highness the Sultan, in order to record in common, by a formal Act, their unanimous determination to conform to the ancient rule of the Ottoman Empire, according to which the passage of the Straits of the Dardanelles and of the Bosphorus is always to be closed to foreign ships of war, so long as the Porte is at peace.

Their said Majesties, on the one part, and His Highness the Sultan on the other part, having resolved to conclude between them a Convention on this subject, have named for that purpose as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:

His Majesty the Emperor of Austria, King of Hungary and Bohemia, &c., &c.

His Majesty the King of the French, &c., &c.

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, &c., &c,

His Majesty the King of Prussia, &c., &c.

His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, &c., &c.

And His Majesty the most majestic, the most mighty, and the most magnificent Sultan Abdul Medjid, Emperor of the Ottomans, &c., &c.

Who, having reciprocally communicated to each other their respective Full Powers, found to be in good and due form, have agreed upon and signed the following Articles:

ARTICLE I.

His Highness the Sultan, on the one part, declares that he is firmly resolved to maintain for the future the principle invariably established as the ancient rule of his empire, and in virtue of which it has at all times been prohibited for the Ships of War of Foreign Powers to enter the Straits of the Dardanelles and of the Bosphorus; and that, so long as the Porte is at peace, His Highness will admit no foreign ship of war into the said Straits.

And their Majesties the Emperor of Austria, King of Hungary and Bohemia, the King of the French, the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the King of Prussia, and the Emperor of all the Russias, on the other part, engage to respect this determination of the Sultan and to conform themselves to the principle above specified.

ARTICLE II.

It is understood that in recording the inviolability of the ancient rule of the Ottoman Empire mentioned in the preceding Article, the Sultan reserves to himself, as in past times, to deliver firmans of passage for light vessels under flag of war, which shall be employed as is usual in the service of the Missions of foreign Powers.

ARTICLE III.

His Highness the Sultan reserves to himself to communicate the present Convention to all the Powers with whom the Sublime Porte is in relations of friendship, inviting them to accede thereto.

ARTICLE IV.

The present Convention shall be ratified, and the ratifications thereof shall be exchanged at London at the expiration of months, or sooner if possible.

In faith whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereunto the seals of their arms.

Done at London, the in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-one.

(Initialed) E. N.
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No. 184.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 16.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, February* 16, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of my Official Note in answer to the Official Note dated the 13th instant, which I received from the Sublime Porte.

Inclosure in No. 184.

Viscount Ponsonby to Rechid Pasha.

Therapia, February 15, 1841.

THE Undersigned, &c., had yesterday the honour to receive an Official Note* from the Sublime Porte dated the 13th instant, transmitted to him by his Excellency the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs, together with a copy of two firmans, the one containing the conditions annexed by the Sublime Porte to the grant made to Mehemet Ali of the hereditary Government of Egypt; the other containing the grant to Mehemet Ali of the Government of the Provinces of Nubia, Darfour, Kordufan, and Sennaar, and also a letter from the Grand Vizier to Mehemet Ali, all being dated the 13th of the month.

The Undersigned immediately forwarded the afore-mentioned papers to Her Britannic Majesty's Government, to which it belongs to reply to the wishes expressed by the Sublime Porte respecting the renewed aid to be afforded to the Ottoman Government in the event of a refusal by Mehemet Ali, to obey the orders of his Sovereign conveyed in the firman.

The Undersigned must take notice of one paragraph in the Official Note he had the honour to receive from the Sublime Porte, because it does not quite correctly state the circumstances to which it adverts. It states, "En outre, la Sublime Porte, ainsi qu'il est connu à votre Excellence, a agi, depuis le commencement de la Question Egyptienne, d'après l'avis et les conseils des Quatre Augustes Cours, ses amies et alliées."

The fact is, that the firman which contains the conditions upon which His Imperial Majesty the Sultan grants the hereditary Government of Egypt to Mehemet Ali was not prepared with the advice and counsel of the Four Courts, the friends and allies of the Sultan; for that firman was prepared and perfected by the Ottoman Government without the knowledge of the Undersigned, who is recognized by the Sublime Porte as the Representative of the British Government in this country.

* See Inclosure 5 in No. 172.

His Excellency the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs did notify to the Undersigned his Excellency's intention to communicate to the Undersigned a plan his Excellency had in consideration for the settlement of the Egyptian Question, but his Excellency did not make any such communication to the Undersigned. The papers mentioned in the Official Note were not given to the Dragoman of the British Embassy till after the measure had been decided, and the formal execution of it completed, and ordered to be sent to Alexandria within a few hours; that is, before the Undersigned could by any means have cognizance of them. The Undersigned, therefore, disclaims all responsibility whatever for the measures detailed in the firman containing the conditions.

The Undersigned feels a most anxious desire that the arrangement which the Sublime Porte has been pleased to make, may have the happy effect of terminating the long-agitated Question of Egypt.

The Undersigned, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 185.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 16.)

My Lord, *Therapia, February* 17, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith copy of instructions which have been drawn up for his Excellency Saïd Muhib Effendi, the Commissioner sent lately by the Sublime Porte to Alexandria; also copy of a firman which his Excellency was charged to deliver to Mehemet Ali Pasha.

I have this moment received the above papers.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 185.

[See Inclosure 1 in No. 172.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 185.

[See Inclosure 7 in No. 172.]

No. 186.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, March* 16, 1841.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency a copy of a Note* which the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain, Austria, Prussia, and Russia, addressed to Chekib Effendi on the 13th instant, with reference to a communication made by him to the Conference on the 11th instant, of the Hatti-Sheriffs, issued by the Sultan on the 13th of February, specifying the conditions annexed by the Sultan to the grant to Mehemet Ali of the hereditary Pashalic of Egypt.

You will observe, that in that Note allusion is made to questions which may arise, as to the interpretation of parts of the Hatti-Sheriffs; and the Plenipotentiaries state, that those questions will find their solu-

* See No. 174.

tion upon reference being made to the Note, addressed by the Plenipotentiaries to Chekib Effendi on the 30th of January.

The principal question, to which allusion is thus made by the Plenipotentiaries, is that which might arise out of the wording of the first Article of the Hatti-Sheriff, which specifies the conditions to be imposed upon Mehemet Ali. The wording of that Article might lead to the supposition, that the Sultan intended to reserve to himself to choose upon each vacancy in the Pashalic of Egypt, any one of the descendants of Mehemet Ali, without regard to any fixed rule whatever; and that thus the principle of hereditary tenure would be rendered illusory.

Her Majesty's Government conceive, that this was by no means the intention of the Porte, and that what was meant to be established by the condition above-mentioned is, that while, on the one hand, the Sultan grants to the descendants of Mehemet Ali in the direct male line, hereditary succession in the Pashalic of Egypt, the Sultan reserves his own Sovereign rights intact, by declaring, that those descendants shall not succeed as a matter of course and of inherent right, as would be the case with the Rulers of an independent State, but shall each in turn receive his appointment from the Sultan, and by a separate act of the Sultan's Sovereign power.

If this is a correct view of the meaning of the Article in question, there can be no difficulty on the part of the Porte in giving such an explanation thereof as will remove all misunderstandings; and the Porte might say, that it is the intention of the Sultan that this right of selection shall in all cases be exercised in favour of the next male heir to the deceased Pasha, unless, by infancy or by physical incapacity, such male heir should be incapable of taking charge of the administration of the province, in which case the person next in relationship to the deceased Pasha would be appointed in his stead. The Sultan might, at the same time, make it to be clearly understood, that it is his intention that Ibrahim shall succeed to Mehemet.

Her Majesty's Government have been informed, that Mehemet Ali has made representations to the Porte upon two other points,—the amount of tribute, and the degree of military and naval rank up to which he is to be allowed to make appointments and promotions in the forces maintained in Egypt.

The first is a question of account upon which, no doubt, an understanding will be come to between the parties. And the Four Powers purposely abstained from entering into that question, in framing the Separate Act of the Treaty of July, because they felt that they had no information which could enable them to judge what would be the proper amount for such tribute.

The second question also seems to be one about which it cannot be difficult to come to an understanding. It is necessary to maintain the principle, that all the military and naval appointments and commissions emanate originally from the Sovereign power of the State; but it seems a matter of less importance to determine up to what degree of rank the selection of individuals for promotion shall be left by the Sultan to the discretion of the Pasha of the province.

There is, in this respect, great diversity in the practice of different countries. In some, all appointments from the lowest to the highest are made by the direct selection and act of the Crown; in other countries the Crown invariably, and as an established rule, takes the recommendation of Generals in local command, as to appointments and promotions up to various degrees of rank. The important thing is, that each officer, high or low, should know and understand that he is in the service of the Sovereign, and not merely in that of the Provincial Governor.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 187.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 17.)

(Extract.) *Paris, March* 15, 1841.

M. GUIZOT'S despatch of last Saturday to the Baron de Bourqueney has been, I imagine, already communicated to your Lordship, and will have apprized you, that, although full powers have not yet been sent to the French Chargé d'Affaires, he is authorised to initial the proposed Bosphorus Convention. M. Guizot said to me to-day, that the alterations which the Representatives of the Allied Powers had consented to make in the papers submitted to the French Government were satisfactory; and if the Turco-Egyptian Question had been settled, (the settlement of which was the basis of the proposition made to France,) full powers would have been sent to Baron de Bourqueney to sign immediately the Convention; but, under the existing circumstances, when conditions were imposed on Mehemet Ali by the Sultan, which the Pasha deemed to be inconsistent with what had been held out to him, if not positively promised by the Allies, and which he had in consequence refused, when it was unknown whether the Allies would assist the Sultan in enforcing those conditions, or use their influence at Constantinople to modify the conditions of the Hatti-Sheriff, and, in case of failing to obtain this object, would leave the Sultan and his Vassal to settle as they could their difference; it was impossible for the French Government to do more than authorise its Representative in London to initial the Convention.

In giving this authority, he considered the French Government as entering into a positive engagement to sign the Convention, as soon as the Turco-Egyptian Question was really concluded.

No. 188.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 18.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, February* 19, 1841.

THE Turkish steamer that carried the firman with the conditions imposed by the Porte on Mehemet Ali, may reach Alexandria this day or to-morrow. It is not expected that an answer will arrive here under ten days.

I forwarded by the Vienna Post copy of my Official Note to the Porte, in my despatch of the 16th instant. I inclose the answer Rechid Pasha made to the Dragoman, when he presented my Official Note.

Inclosure in No. 188.

M. F. Pisani to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Péra, le* 18 *Février*, 1841.

J'AI remis hier matin à son Excellence Réchid Pacha une traduction Française de la Note de votre Excellence avec l'original. Cela a fait quelque peine à Réchid. Il m'a parlé dans les termes suivans. "J'espérais que son Excellence serait très-contente de ce que nous avons fait. Lord Ponsonby a dit dans la Conférence qu'il était d'accord avec ses Collègues sur tous les points excepté sur l'Article du Tribut. Ce que la Porte a fait à cet égard lui a paru concilier les deux opinions. J'ai dit à la vérité que je communiquerais confidentiellement une copie du firman à Lord Ponsonby, mais je n'ai pas pu le faire, parceque le projet était entre les mains du Sultan, et il ne m'a été renvoyé qu'avec l'ordre de Sa Hautesse de la communiquer officiellement aux Quatre Représentans, et de l'expédier à Alexandrie en original." Réchid a fini par protester de son profond respect pour votre Excellence.

Je suis, &c.,
(Signé) F. PISANI.

(Translation.)

My Lord, *Pera, February* 18, 1841.

I DELIVERED yesterday morning to his Excellency Rechid Pasha a French translation of your Excellency's note with the original. It occasioned some pain to Rechid. He spoke to me in the following terms: "I hoped that his Excellency would be well satisfied with what we have done. Lord Ponsonby said in the Conference that he was agreed with his colleagues on all the points except that of the tribute. What the Porte has done in that respect, appeared to it to reconcile the two opinions. I said indeed that I would communicate to Lord Ponsonby confidentially a copy of the firman, but I was unable to do so, because the draft was in the hands of the Sultan, and it was only sent back to me with His Highness's order to communicate it officially to the Four Representatives, and to send it in original to Alexandria." Rechid finished by protesting his profound respect for your Excellency.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) F. PISANI.

No. 189.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 18.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, February* 21, 1841.

THE last accounts from Alexandria, by the French steamer, state that Mehemet Ali is carrying on his preparations for war, and it is to be remarked that he was making those preparations after he knew that the hereditary Government of Egypt had been granted to him, and before the conditions to be annexed to that Grant had been notified to him, or determined upon here.

No. 190.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received March 18.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, February* 21, 1841.

I REQUESTED Colonel Rose to set down in writing what he had seen and heard in Syria, and he has been good enough to comply with my request, and to furnish me with a report, which I have the greatest pleasure in transmitting to your Lordship, thinking it to be extremely well worth your attention.

Inclosure in No. 190.

Colonel Rose to Viscount Ponsonby.

(Extract.) *Therapia, February* 20, 1841.

THE despatches from Colonel Bridgeman will have made your Lordship acquainted with the numbers and description of the force which Ibrahim Pasha takes out of Syria, I will not therefore weary your Lordship with a repetition. With respect to the Syrians in his army, the 3rd Regiment of Guards and the Battalion of Riflemen are composed of them. They are both very much reduced by desertion, the former by the last accounts to 500 or 600 men, (the other regiments of the Guards being 1,500 strong,) and the latter to 250 men. The tendency of the Syrians to desert was so great, that during the march from Tafyle to Gaza, Ibrahim Pasha caused an Egyptian regiment to bivouac round the Syrian Riflemen in order to prevent their desertion. The Bedouins behaved very ill in plundering and stripping the deserters: if they had not thus checked the

desertion, there is no saying to what extent it might have gone. In one little village in the mountains near Hebron, where I was, there were alone fifty deserters, all nearly naked and starving.

There are a great many Syrians in the Egyptian cavalry. I should think, that in all, 4,000 or 5,000 Syrians must have left their country with Ibrahim Pasha. Your Lordship is aware that Captain Houston Stewart and myself did our utmost to induce the Egyptian military authorities, Ahmed Dramanli Pasha and Mahmoud Bey at Gaza, to leave behind the Syrian soldiers, Mehemet Ali having given up all authority over their country, and ordered its evacuation by his son; they said that they could not possibly do so without orders. I suggested that they might at least leave a return of their numbers, as the different regiments left Gaza, extracted from their regimental books: this they consented to. I left Gaza the next day in search of Ibrahim Pasha, but I understand from Colonel Alderson, who is superintending the evacuation at Gaza, that the Egyptians sent him the returns of Syrians in two regiments of cavalry, amounting the one to thirty-five, and the other to thirty-six; but neither Colonel Alderson nor myself consider these numbers correct. Your Lordship is aware of the answer given by Mehemet Ali to the application for the restoration of the Syrians to their country; which, as well as I remember, was to the following effect: "That his delivery of the Syrians serving in his army would follow on that of the Egyptians taken from him." However, as I did not see the document, I do not speak with certainty on this point.

When I came up with Ibrahim Pasha's column, there were two lines of videttes flanking it towards the Syrian side,—mounted and dismounted cavalry—to prevent desertion. I rode for several miles along the column, which was in great disorder—in fact it was quite broken up; groups of men in two and threes, some armed, some not, others hardly able to walk. I saw two standards, one without any escort, the other with a guard of two men: they must have belonged to battalions which had been broken up on account of their casualties. Ibrahim Pasha's own horses had had no barley that day; the troops had been three days without water, and had subsisted chiefly on mule and donkey flesh, which sold at a high price: 200 determined cavalry might have swept away all that part of the column which I saw (I entered it at about two-thirds of its length), with great ease.

Ibrahim Pasha did not appear pleased when I gave him Mehemet Ali's letter. He was agitated, and it took him five minutes to read it, although it only consisted of four lines. Whilst he was thus employed, his camel-rider and chief groom were also endeavouring to read it over his shoulder. I rode with him for about four hours, and accompanied him to Gaza; he spoke with considerable bitterness of the Turks. He said, "Why have you turned out the Seraskier*?" I said that the Turkish Government had, I believed, recalled him, because they were not satisfied with his conduct. He answered, "Oh! they are all alike; they smoke all day, and have people to wash their hands." I said, "The present Seraskier is a very good man and soldier." "Oh yes," he replied, "as long as he is in the saddle; as soon as he sits down he will rob like the rest"—on which he laughed very much. "I am the only man," he said, "to manage the Arabs and Bedouins, who never had any master before me. I could and did cut off their heads, which the Turks never will do. Lord Palmerston from London, and Lord Ponsonby from Constantinople, will have to come here to manage Syria." I said, that certainly they had done so much without coming to the country, that there was no knowing what they might effect, were they actually to do so. He did not look pleased. It appeared to me that he was either affecting high spirits, or that he had been drinking too much. He drank frequently from a bottle which hung in front of his saddle, and I was informed by an Egyptian Colonel of Artillery that it was filled with claret. He talked and laughed constantly with his servants. He is now

* Izzet Pasha.

suffering under a very bad attack of the jaundice, his eyes and head being quite yellow.

His reception at Gaza was remarkable; the people flocked from curiosity to see him, but his entry formed a singular contrast to that of the Turkish troops into the different towns and villages which they had occupied for the first time. In the latter case, the reception was enthusiastic, the men lining the roads and saluting us with all the varieties of an Eastern welcome, and the women crowding the house-tops and making with their tongues that extraordinary noise which is meant to denote extreme pleasure; but with Ibrahim Pasha, there was a look of deep-rooted dislike on the faces of the people, which even their dread of him could not conceal. He, contrary to the Eastern fashion, saluted no one,—not one saluted him; certainly, as an inhabitant afterwards said to me, "Not a tongue nor a heart blessed him."

No. 191.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 18.)

My Lord, *Therapia, February* 22, 1841.

I HAVE received from Mr. Consul Moore accounts of violent outrages committed by the Albanian troops in Syria, and very great disorders by some Turkish troops also. I have sent the details to the Porte, and called upon it in the strongest manner to take immediate measures to remedy the evil. I suggested the recall from Syria of the Albanians without delay, saying that they were no longer necessary there, in consequence of the state of Ibrahim's army, and possibly of that Chief himself.

I have desired the Dragoman to tell the Minister, that if there was any delay in taking the necessary remedial measures, I should think it my duty to bring the matter before the Porte in a more public and more official manner, in order to save the Sultan and the general cause from the dangers to which all are exposed by the misconduct of the troops.

The Porte will see in the documents I have sent in, that the French Agents in Syria are active in endeavouring to take advantage of the misconduct of these troops, and to induce an insurrection against the Porte; and it will also see the account of the alarm existing even amongst the Turks, the natives at Beyrout.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 192.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 23.)

My Lord, *Therapia, February* 23, 1841.

I TRANSMIT copy of one of General Jochmus's despatches to Admiral Sir Robert Stopford, that I may insure its being known to your Lordship, as it affords information essential to a correct judgment of the affairs of this country.

It is shown in the Despatch, that had it not been for the perseverance of General Jochmus in taking measures against Ibrahim Pasha, it would have been easy for Ibrahim to remain with his army in Damascus until, the arrangement with Mehemet Ali having been completed, he might have retreated with a great unbroken force to Egypt, instead of having his army defeated and nearly destroyed, and wholly demoralized.

Had Ibrahim remained at Damascus, the military question would have been undecided, and it would have been easy to assert, that victory might still have been on the side of the Pasha, had Mehemet Ali thought it politic to continue the war.

If Ibrahim had taken back to Egypt his large army unharmed, Mehe-

met Ali would possess a force that might encourage him to resist, and might possibly make him stronger than ever. The energy of General Jochmus has rendered all doubt and delusion on the subject of the military question impossible, and has shown, that under able command the Turkish troops are more than a match for the Egyptian army and General; his energy has also taken from Mehemet Ali the best means he could have to support resistance, and therefore has afforded the best ground for hoping he will submit.

All this good is due to the energy of General Jochmus. The praises General Jochmus gives to those who have done good service, are proofs of his honourable and just feelings.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure in No. 192.

[See Sub-Inclosure 28 in No. 175.]

No. 193.

Earl Granville to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 21.)

Extract.) *Paris, March* 19, 1841.

I RECEIVED yesterday your Lordship's despatch of the 16th instant, with its important inclosures.

I have seen the President of the Council and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, since they learnt that the draft of Convention between Great Britain, Austria, France, Prussia, and Russia, on the one part, and the Sublime Porte on the other, had been provisionally agreed to by the respective Plenipotentiaries of these Powers. The Ministers expressed to me the greatest satisfaction at the prospect thus afforded of an end being speedily put to that state of agitation regarding the affairs of the East, which had during some years disquieted the world and placed in jeopardy the peace of Europe.

No. 194.

Colonel Bridgeman to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 22.)

British Head-Quarters, Jaffa,
My Lord, *February* 19, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship the entire evacuation this day of the territories of His Imperial Highness the Sultan, by the Egyptian army.

As by the inclosed report of Lieutenant-Colonel Alderson, who has this moment returned from Gaza,—having been employed there, since the cessation of hostilities, to see the evacuation duly carried into effect,—it appears that 34,000 men have either marched or embarked, the force with which Ibrahim Pasha reached that place must have amounted to 30,000 men, the original garrison having consisted of about 4,000. A column also under Solyman Pasha, which consisted of 3,000 or 4,000 men, marched to Egypt by the Desert road. The force, therefore, with which Ibrahim Pasha marched from Damascus, could not have been less than 40,000 men, as his losses in the Desert are known to have been very severe. On the 5th instant, (as I stated in my last despatch it was my intention to do,) I proceeded to Gaza, returning here on the 10th, having personally assured myself, in my interviews with Ibrahim Pasha, that he was no less anxious to hasten, than we were to induce, his departure. He had recovered the effects of his harassing retreat, and benefited by the prescriptions of Assistant-Surgeon Robertson, of Her Majesty's ship

"Benbow," who had been sent to Gaza, Ibrahim Pasha having expressed a wish to consult an English medical officer.

The Convention, I am happy to assure your Lordship, has been effected with much reciprocal courtesy and good faith, and both Turkish and Egyptian Authorities have evinced all possible reliance on British mediation, and acquiesced in all our proposals and arrangements. I feel particularly obliged to the Seraskier Pasha for his courtesy and attention to my suggestions. The discharge of the Syrian soldiers serving in the Egyptian army, was the only question upon which any difficulty arose. On the 25th of January, Captain Stewart being then at Gaza, found, that although no mention thereof was made in Commodore Sir Charles Napier's communication to Brigadier-General Michell, (a copy of which I had the honour to transmit to your Lordship, in my despatch of the 26th of January,) the Turkish Authorities as earnestly insisted on the point, as the Egyptians decidedly refused to concede it. That there might not, however, be any consequent delay in the evacuation, it was agreed that the Syrians should accompany their regiments to Egypt, and that (should it be hereafter so decided) they should all be sent back to this country free of expence; and the Seraskier and others of his Council assured me, that they considered this a better course than to risk an interruption of the evacuation, pending further negotiation or reference.

Captain Stewart, however, immediately despatched the "Hecate" steamer from Gaza to Alexandria, to communicate with Commodore Sir Charles Napier on the subject.

The "Stromboli" steamer returned thence forthwith, bringing intelligence that Commodore Napier was at Cairo, but that Captain Ward, commanding the "Hecate," had had an interview with Mehemet Ali, who had assured him that it had been arranged and agreed five days previously, between himself, the Turkish Commissioner Mazloum Bey, and Commodore Napier, that the Syrian conscripts should remain with their regiments until their arrival in Egypt, when they would be exchanged for the Egyptians remaining in Candia, the Hedjaz, and at Constantinople. Thus the matter rested, but by a subsequent letter received from Commodore Napier by Captain Stewart, it appears that Mehemet Ali had misrepresented the facts, and that it had been decided to permit of the discharge of the Syrians at Gaza.

The Seraskier Pasha and the head-quarters of the Turkish army being already on their return to Beyrout, I have considered it advisable to remove thither the head-quarters of the British forces and the Royal Artillery,* &c., Captain Stewart having provided conveyance in Her Majesty's steam vessels "Vesuvius" and "Hecate." Their removal is indeed rendered the more necessary, some cases of plague having appeared amongst the Turkish troops of this garrison, the report of which your Lordship will find in the inclosed letter from the Inspector-General of Hospitals, Dr. Robertson, who arrived here from Acre on the 7th inst. At Tyre the plague has also broken out to some considerable extent, and sanatory regulations have been established there, as well as at this place. There was one case a short time ago at Sidon, which ended fatally, but the disease had not extended further. No British soldier has been attacked, and I have not failed to adopt every possible precaution for their security. The Egyptian army having thus finally retired, and the Seraskier Pasha, Lieutenant-General Jochmus, and others of the Turkish Authorities having quitted the town at the commencement of the week, my presence is no longer necessary, and I am at liberty to proceed on my overland journey to Beyrout. I shall however, before returning there, visit several places from as far south as the Dead Sea, that I may make myself acquainted with the features of the country, and personally ascertain the feelings and disposition of the inhabitants. I hope to reach Beyrout about the 5th of next month. A few more cases of plague have been reported, (in the

* Royal Artillery:—2 Lieutenant-Colonels, 2 Subalterns, 2 Serjeants, 54 Rank and File.
Royal Engineers and Royal Sappers and Miners:—1 Lieutenant-Colonel, 2 Subalterns, 1 Serjeant, 21 Rank and File.

hospital,) since the date of Dr. Robertson's letter, and in one or two instances amongst inhabitants of the town; but as all the British troops have embarked, my apprehensions on their account are at an end.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) E. H. BRIDGEMAN,
Colonel commanding the British Force in Syria.

Inclosure 1 in No. 194.

[See Sub-Inclosure 50 in No. 175.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 194.

Dr. Robertson to Colonel Bridgeman.

Sir, *Jaffa, February* 13, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to report, that in obedience to your order, I this morning visited the Turkish Military Hospital, to inspect some cases of supposed plague. I found three men labouring under disease which I am decidedly of opinion is plague, and there are several others with suspicious symptoms. These men were admitted into hospital from this garrison; there is therefore reason to suppose that the disease may further develope itself among the troops in Jaffa.

To prevent if possible the extension of the complaint, I have recommended that the Turkish troops be removed to a camp outside of the town.

I beg to suggest that it is advisable that the British troops should be confined to their quarters.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN ROBERTSON, M.D.
Deputy-Inspector-General.

No. 195.

Viscount Palmerston to Colonel Bridgeman.

Sir, *Foreign Office, March* 25, 1841.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 26th of January, containing an account of the various operations which had been carried on from the 31st of December, the date of Brigadier-General Michell's last despatch, until the death of that officer; and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve what was done during that interval.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 196.

Viscount Palmerston to Earl Granville.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, March* 26, 1841.

I INCLOSE to your Excellency, for your information, copies of a despatch* and of its inclosures which I have received from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, containing the substance of the conditions to be imposed on Mehemet Ali, as they were read to the Representatives of the Four Powers on the 4th of February last.

* See No. 162.

Your Excellency will perceive from this despatch, that the arrangement relative to the succession of Mehemet Ali's descendants, as stated in the firman of the 13th of February, is in substance the same as the arrangement stated in the Memorandum of the 4th of February; and your Excellency will see, that this latter arrangement was unanimously agreed to by all those Four Representatives. From this it seems to be clear, that the arrangement stated in the firman could not have been intended as a mode of evading the fulfilment of the promise made to Mehemet Ali upon this subject, because it is impossible to suppose that the Four Representatives would have given their assent to such a scheme.

I have at the same time to add, that private accounts from Constantinople state, that the firmans of the 13th of February were drawn up by the Turkish Government in concert with the Austrian Internuncio, and without communication with the whole of the Four Representatives.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 197.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 29.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, February* 25, 1841.

SOME short time ago Baron de Stürmer proposed that we should consult about making regulations for the settlement of Syria. I replied, that it was a subject of great magnitude, requiring strict examination into facts and mature deliberation, and that I should think it best to see our situation more clearly before we acted. I am very unwilling to act upon this matter without your Lordship's directions so to do, until after I shall have satisfied myself, that the real interests and welfare of the Syrians and of the Porte are to be promoted by the measures that may be proposed. I have written to Syria to procure from thence statements of the precise nature of the old institutions of that country, and for information whether or not the people generally were well content with those institutions, and how they could be altered or modified so as to produce satisfaction and security against the abuses of authority. I have pointed to the Hatti-Sheriff as a rule that may be useful to consult, and as a security for the legality of the assertion of known rights. I have asked for information respecting taxes, &c. &c.

No. 198.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 29.)

My Lord, *Therapia, February* 27, 1841.

THE French steamer brought me yesterday despatches from Sir Edmund Lyons, communicating the measures adopted by himself and the Austrian and Prussian Ministers, in consequence of the discovery of plans (in part executed) of certain Candiotes, for raising disturbances in the Island of Candia.

I immediately informed the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs of the facts, and I at the same time acquainted him that two British ships of the line, the "Vanguard" and the "Hastings," were probably already in the port of that island: the above being intelligence I received the day before yesterday, from Captain Austin of Her Majesty's steam frigate "Cyclops," who arrived here bringing your Lordship's despatches.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

P. S.—The French steamer has not brought any news from Alexandria, nor have I heard of any.

No. 199.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 30.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, March* 2, 1841.

I HAVE just received a letter from Mr. Consul Ongley, dated Canea, February 15.

He says, "Letters from Syria state that ammunition had been purchased there, and shipped on board a vessel which was to have left Syra, for Candia, on the 13th of February." He adds:—"It is reported that 700 men (Creto-Hellenes) are to come, and that affairs are certainly in a critical situation."

The above-stated facts respecting the ammunition being procured, and the Creto-Hellenes preparing to act, seem to corroborate what Sir Edmund Lyons has reported.

I have communicated to the Porte the information relating to the ammunition being shipped at Syra, and the supposed arrival in Candia of the Creto-Hellenes.

No. 200.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 26.)

My Lord, *Therapia, March* 3, 1841.

I MENTIONED in a late despatch my having recommended to the Sublime Porte the removal of the Albanian troops from Syria, on account of their extreme misconduct there; I have now to report, that the Porte has determined to remove them.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 201.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received March* 30.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, March* 6, 1841.

I INCLOSE a Report to me from the Dragoman, in reply to my inquiries. I have seen two private letters that corroborate what is stated in the Report.

Inclosure in No. 201.

M. F. Pisani to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Péra, le* 6 *Mars,* 1841.

LES nouvelles d'Alexandrie ne sont pas favorables. Muhib Effendi est resté à Alexandrie. Il a envoyé ici un long rapport et une lettre de Méhémet Ali au Grand Vizir. Ces deux pièces ont été envoyées au Sultan. Réchid m'a dit qu'aussitôt qu'il les aura, il m'en donnera des copies. Méhémet Ali a rejeté les principaux points: savoir, la succession au Pachalic doit se faire sur la base fixée que l'aîné de la famille sera le successeur, et cela peut être le frère, et non pas le fils, du Pacha décédé. Le même systême est suivi dans la dynastie Ottomane.

Les institutions de Gulhané ne sont pratiquables en Egypte.

La quatrième partie des revenus est trop.

Point de Muhassil.

Toutes les stipulations entre la Porte et les Puissances étrangères ne sont pas applicables à l'Egypte.

Voilà, dit Réchid, à peu près ce que j'ai compris en donnant un coup d'œil sur la lettre de Méhémet Ali.

Je retourne à la Porte pour tâcher d'avoir la copie de cette lettre, qui jette une nouvelle phase sur l'affaire Turco-Egyptienne.

Je suis, &c.,
(Signé) F. PISANI.

(Translation.)

My Lord, *Pera, March* 6, 1841.

THE news from Alexandria are not favourable. Muhib Effendi has remained at Alexandria. He has sent here a long report and a letter from Mehemet Ali to the Grand Vizier. These two documents have been sent to the Sultan. Rechid told me that as soon as he shall have them, he will give me copies of them. Mehemet Ali has rejected the principal points; that is to say, the succession to the Pashalic is to take place on the fixed basis that the eldest of the family shall be the successor, and that may be the brother, and not the son, of the deceased Pasha. The same system is followed in the Ottoman dynasty.

The institutions of Gulhané are not practicable in Egypt.

The fourth part of the revenues is too much.

No Muhassil.

All the stipulations between the Porte and foreign Powers are not applicable to Egypt.

"This," said Rechid Pasha, "is about what I have understood on casting a glance over Mehemet Ali's letter."

I am returning to the Porte in order to endeavour to have a copy of this letter, which produces a new aspect in the Turco-Egyptian affair.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) F. PISANI.

No. 202.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, March* 30, 1841.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 6th of March, by which it appears that the Porte had received intelligence from Alexandria that Mehemet Ali objected to certain of the conditions attached to the firmans, issued by the Porte on the 13th of February, for regulating the future Government of Egypt.

With reference to the several objections which, according to M. Pisani's report to your Excellency, Mehemet Ali has offered to these conditions, I have to observe to your Excellency, that with regard to the order of succession in the Pashalic of Egypt, there seems no objection to the Porte fixing it now beforehand, subject to variation in cases of infancy or physical incapacity; but the principle should be maintained that the appointment of each successive Pasha shall be a separate act of the Sovereign authority of the Sultan, as stated in the Note addressed by the Plenipotentiaries of the Four Powers to Chekib Effendi, on the 30th of January.

As to the Hatti Sheriff of Gulhané, and the Treaties of the Porte with Foreign Powers, they must necessarily be carried into execution in Egypt. With regard to the amount of tribute to be hereafter paid by Mehemet Ali, that seems to be a matter of account, which must be determined according to the result of accurate statements of the net revenue of Egypt; of the aggregate cost of all the establishments, civil, military, and naval; and of the amount of surplus which is to be divided between the Sultan and the Pasha, in the shape of tribute for the former, and of means of maintenance for the latter.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 203.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, March* 30, 1841.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 25th of February, reporting what had passed between yourself and the Internuncio, on the subject of the regulations to be established by the Porte for the future Government of Syria, and stating that you had deemed it advisable, before taking any steps with the Porte on this matter, to obtain from Syria full information on which to form your opinion; and I have to state to your Excellency, that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve the course you propose to pursue.

The first step towards forming or suggesting a plan for the future, is to obtain full and accurate information as to the past.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 204.

Viscount Palmerston to Colonel Bridgeman.

Sir, *Foreign Office, March* 30, 1841.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 19th of February, reporting the complete evacuation of Syria by the Egyptian forces.

Her Majesty's Government have learnt with great satisfaction this successful termination of the contest which has been carried on in that country; and they are fully sensible of the services which the officers and men of Her Majesty's forces, employed on shore, have rendered in the execution of the measures which have led to this result. Her Majesty's Government are especially pleased with the exertions of Her Majesty's officers to prevent any unnecessary loss of life which might have arisen from the mutual distrust of the contending parties; and they feel confident that the intercourse which Her Majesty's officers have had with the Turkish and Egyptian troops, will induce both parties to entertain the most favourable opinion of the British army.

I have to instruct you to acquaint the officers and men under your command, that Her Majesty's Government fully approve their conduct throughout the military operations which preceded the evacuation of Syria; and are equally persuaded that their conduct during the short time they may still remain in that country, will continue to be honourable to themselves and advantageous to the public service.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 205.

Viscount Palmerston to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

My Lords, *Foreign Office, March* 30, 1841.

I HAVE had under my consideration the letter of your Lordships' Secretary of the 12th of March, inclosing copies of two despatches from Admiral Sir Robert Stopford, dated the 28th of February and the 1st of March, the former reporting the evacuation of Syria by the Egyptian troops.

Her Majesty's Government duly appreciate the zeal and activity

shown by the officers and men of Her Majesty's squadron on the coast of Syria, during the operations which preceded the evacuation of Syria; and I would suggest to your Lordships, that Sir Robert Stopford should be directed to acquaint Captain Stewart of Her Majesty's ship "Benbow," the commanding officer on the Syrian coast, that Her Majesty's Government approve his conduct during the late transactions, and have received with much satisfaction his report of the zealous exertions of the officers and men of Her Majesty's fleet serving under his immediate command.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 206.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 2.)

My Lord, *Therapia, March* 6, 1841.

I INCLOSE a letter I have received from Mr. Wood, reporting the steps taken to put an end to the evils occasioned by the Albanians in Syria.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure in No. 206.

Mr. Wood to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Beyrout, February* 22, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to state to your Lordship, that in consequence of the information transmitted by Mr. Moore to head-quarters at Jaffa of the proceedings of the Albanian troops on their march from Tripoli to Beyrout, which had forced the mountaineers to arm themselves at different points for the defence of their villages, and of the consequent alarm that it had created in the minds of the people, his Excellency the Seraskier Pasha and myself repaired to Beyrout to examine into the disorders committed by them, and punish the offenders.

His Excellency held a Council on the 19th instant, in the presence of the principal inhabitants of the town, and on the following day a meeting was held, to which were invited the Consuls of the Foreign Powers, who represented to his Excellency the bad impression the conduct of these disorderly troops would have in the country, if they were allowed to commit disorders with impunity.

Great credit is due to his Excellency for the promptitude with which he exerted himself to restore tranquillity, dispel the fears of the inhabitants, and restore confidence to them.

The Albanians will be gradually removed from Syria to Malatia,—a measure which will impress upon the minds of the people the anxiety of His Imperial Highness's Government to remove every cause of annoyance to them.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) RICHARD WOOD.

No. 207.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, April* 2, 1841.

IN reply to your despatch of the 6th of March, inclosing a copy of a letter from Mr. Wood, respecting the proceedings of the Albanian troops in Syria, from which it appears that the Commander of the Ottoman forces in that country intends gradually to remove those troops to Malatia; I have to state to your Excellency, that it appears to Her Majesty's Government to be highly desirable that these Albanian troops should be removed from Syria immediately, and not gradually.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 208.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 2.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, March* 6, 1841.

I INCLOSE a report from Mr. Wood on the conduct of Ibrahim Pasha, and his refusal to deliver up the Syrian conscripts and the Turkish marines.

Inclosure in No. 208.

Mr. Wood to Viscount Ponsonby.

Head-Quarters, Jaffa,

My Lord, *February* 14, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to state, that from the latest news the total amount of Egyptian troops still at Gaza, does not exceed 4,000 in all, intended to be embarked the moment a sufficient number of vessels can be procured for that purpose. There are already thirteen ships of war at Gaza, and others are expected daily with a steamer for the conveyance of Ibrahim Pasha to Egypt.

I had the honour to transmit to your Lordship, in my letter of the 2nd instant, a copy of a written promise signed by the Seraskier Pasha, General Jochmus, and the Mustechar Effendi, pledging themselves to conform to the formal declaration given to the Egyptians by Captain Stewart, of Her Majesty's navy, and Colonel Alderson, that no further hostilities should be attempted against them by the Turkish army, provided that the total evacuation was effected within seven days from the day of its date, viz., the 30th of January.

Not only has this condition not been fulfilled up to the present date (as I anticipated it would not unless it suited the convenience of Ibrahim Pasha), but, moreover, he has refused to deliver up the Syrian conscripts, and the Turkish sailors and marines of the Turkish fleet that had been embodied in the Syrio-Egyptian army. Rechid Pasha wrote to me on the subject from Gaza, and I submitted his letter to the Council; but as the error had been already committed of allowing the Egyptians to assemble at that place with their arms, contrary to the instructions of the Sublime Porte, and other engagements had been entered into both in Syria and in Egypt, the Council evinced no disposition to protest energetically against all the acts of the enemy that were at variance, or in direct opposition, with the stipulations agreed to at Alexandria between Mazloum Bey and Mehemet Ali, on the faithful execution of which de-

pended solely the suspension of hostilities. The Syrian conscripts, therefore, and the Turkish sailors and marines, have been compelled to accompany the troops to Egypt.

These embarrassing questions might have been obviated at the commencement, had the Council followed the suggestion of taking possession of the pass of Beshairi, with 1,000 or 2,000 cavalry, which would have obliged Ibrahim Pasha to have continued his retreat to Egypt through the Desert, or, if too weak to have made that attempt, to conform to our conditions previous to being allowed to proceed to Gaza.

All the deserters declare that he could not have remained in the desert two days more, and that the men were too disheartened and too weak for want of nourishment to have endeavoured to force the aforesaid pass. By this simple manœuvre, without the renewal of hostilities, or infringing in any manner the stipulations,—for the road through the desert would have been left open,—Ibrahim Pasha would have been compelled to accede to all our demands.

The total loss of Ibrahim Pasha is reported to amount to 63,500 men, 619 guns, and 148 field pieces: but as I am aware that very full reports on this subject will be transmitted to your Lordship by General Jochmus, I will not presume to enter on a subject on which I have not before me the requisite data to form an opinion.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) RICHARD WOOD.

No. 209.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 2.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, March 9, 1841.*

I HAVE this day received the translation made by Mr. Frederick Pisani of the letter written by the Pasha of Egypt to the Grand Vizier on the subject of the firman conferring the hereditary Government of Egypt upon the family of Mehemet Ali, and of the conditions annexed by the Sultan to that grant; and I have the honour to inclose copy thereof.

Inclosure in No. 209.

Mehemet Ali to the Grand Vizier.—(Communicated to Viscount Ponsonby, March 7, 1841.)

(Traduction.)

J'AI eu l'honneur de recevoir la lettre de Votre Altesse, par laquelle j'ai appris que mon empressement à prouver par des faits mon dévouement et ma soumission à celui qui est l'ombre de Dieu sur la terre, lui ayant été fort agréable, il a daigné me réintegrer dans le Gouvernement de l'Egypte avec hérédité, et que le firman Impérial qui renferme quelques conditions attachées à cette hérédité, et qui est orné en haut d'un rescrit Impérial, m'était envoyé par son Excellence Saïd Muhib Effendi, un des Principaux Employés de la Sublime Porte, et Ministre de la Justice. Conformément à mon devoir de sujet dévoué, j'ai ordonné la formation d'un cortège d'honneur, que j'ai envoyé à la rencontre de son Excellence; j'ai fait tirer de nombreux coups de canon des batteries de terre et des bâtimens, et pavoiser les vaisseaux; réjouissances qui ont rempli de contentement et de joie le cœur des sujets de la Sublime Porte, qui ont adressé des prières au Très Haut pour la conservation des jours et la prospérité de Sa Majesté Impériale. Veuille le Suprême Ordonnateur de l'univers faire en sorte que notre très Auguste, très Grand, et très Puissant Padichah et Maître répande à jamais ses faveurs sur les hommes, et brille dans le royaume de la justice et de l'équité.

Il est clair et évident que quelques efforts que nous fassions, mes fils, mes arrière-neveux, et moi, jusqu'à notre extinction, pour remplir les devoirs de notre dévouement, nous ne pourrons jamais témoigner comme il faut notre reconnaissance pour ces faveurs insignes. Cependant j'ai la confiance que Sa Hautesse, qui est pleine de générosité et de clémence, mue par son caractère magnanime, ne croira pas qu'il soit digne d'elle, que lorsque le Créateur du monde dispense les hommes de conditions dures, les Padichahs qui sont doués des qualités divines, attachent à leurs bienfaits et à leurs faveurs des conditions inexécutables. Je prends donc la liberté d'exposer ici mes motifs pour ne pas accepter certaines conditions.

Et en premier lieu, pour ce qui regarde l'hérédité, il est dit qu'elle appartiendra à ma postérité mâle, et que le Gouvernement de l'Egypte sera conféré à l'individu qui aura été préféré par le Sultan. Moi aussi j'ai la conviction qu'en effet ce qu'il y a de mieux, c'est que l'hérédité appartienne à la ligne masculine. Mais c'est au tems et à l'expérience seuls à faire voir lequel des enfans est le meilleur et le plus digne sujet; et ce point, c'est la famille qui se trouvera ici et les principaux employés de la famille qui le sauront. Il est donc clair que s'il est établi comme condition, que l'hérédité passera de l'aîné à l'aîné, dans la ligne masculine, la famille existante et ses principaux employés feront la demande que l'aîné soit nommé, et Sa Hautesse daignera accueillir leur demande, et de cette manière le bon ordre et la tranquillité seront maintenus. Il est évident, d'ailleurs, que mue par des sentimens de clémence, Sa Hautesse veut le maintien du repos et de la tranquillité, et c'est pour cela que je prie que la question de l'hérédité soit arrangée comme il a été dit plus haut.

Vient ensuite l'exécution complète en Egypte des dispositions du Hatti Schérif de Gulhané, des lois de la Sublime Porte établies et à établir, et de tous les traités faits ou à faire avec les Puissances amies.

Tous les principes consacrés par le Hatti Schérif susdit, ainsi que la plus grande partie des conséquences qui en découlent, sont depuis plus de vingt ans mis en pratique ici. Seulement quelques unes de ces conséquences n'étant pas en harmonie avec les dispositions des pays et la nature des choses, sont nécessairement restées sans effet. Malgré cela, cependant, il ne se fait rien, grâce à Dieu, sous les auspices de Sa Hautesse, qui ne soit conforme à l'équité et à la modération.

Venons maintenant à mes procédés envers les Puissances amies. Ces procédés ont, de tout tems, été basés sur leurs traités avec la Sublime Porte. Je n'ai pas moi, et je n'aurai pas, en mon particulier, des traités avec elles. En ma qualité de sujet, et de sujet soumis, il est de mon devoir de conformer ma conduite aux traités existans entre la Sublime Porte et ces Puissances.

Quant aux lois faites ou à être faites par la Sublime Porte pour l'administration intérieure des Etats de Sa Hautesse, je dirai relativement aux lois militaires et aux lois administratives ce qui suit. Votre Altesse sait que le système des troupes réglées a été introduit en Egypte il y a vingt ans. Or, à l'époque de l'introduction de ce système, j'ai fait traduire le code militaire Français, je l'ai fait rédiger par les Oulémas, adapter à la portée des indigènes, et à la nature de leurs dispositions, et concilier avec les prescriptions des lois saintes; et cela est devenu un livre légal entre les mains du public,—livre, dont les dispositions ont été à la longue adoptées peu à peu par tous; de manière qu'aujourd'hui tout le monde s'y conforme et s'y soumet. Votre Altesse voit donc sans doute qu'il y a de nombreux inconvéniens à abolir des lois solidement établies, pour leur substituer de nouvelles. Je prie, par conséquent, qu'on laisse exister ce code tel qu'il est.

Les affaires de chaque pays dépendent de la nature de sa position. De là la nécessité naturelle d'établir des principes administratifs dans un pays suivant la nature des affaires qui lui sont propres; et il est clair qu'on ne peut appliquer à ce pays-ci des lois faites pour un autre pays. C'est là une règle naturelle, qui est observée même dans les Etats de l'Europe, où chaque partie d'un royaume a des lois analogues aux dispositions des habitans. Je prie donc que, prenant en considération ce

que les règles d'une bonne administration et de la prudence exigent, on renonce à l'abrogation des réglemens existans.

Un autre point: savoir, la perception des dîmes, des autres droits, et des impôts, de la même manière qu'elle aura lieu dans les autres parties de l'Empire, et le recouvrement avant tout, et sans défalquer aucune dépense, pour le compte de la Sublime Porte, de la quatrième partie du montant annuel des droits de douane, des dîmes, des impôts, et de tous les revenus de l'Egypte. Quant au mode de perception, je dis; on n'ignore pas que les impôts arbitraires et les droits fixés sont dans chaque pays deux choses distinctes; et que cette distinction provient de ce qu'il faut établir les impôts suivant l'état de la population et la position des pays, et d'après l'état des affaires et des opérations des individus. C'est pour cela que tout système suivi dans les parties de l'Empire situées en Asie et en Europe ne saurait être mis en vigueur dans les parties de l'Empire situées en Afrique; aussi je prie d'être dispensé de cela aussi.

La condition de mettre à part la quatrième partie des revenus pour la Sublime Porte, avant que d'en avoir défalqué aucune dépense, est une condition à laquelle il est impossible de satisfaire; et la preuve en est que même les Grandes Puissances ne retirent pas, je ne dis pas un quart des revenus, mais même beaucoup moins que cela de nombreuses parties de leurs royaumes, qu'elles ont mises dans l'état le plus florissant possible, et dont les populations se trouvent dans une situation aisée et tranquille. J'ai recours à cet égard, comme en toute autre circonstance, à l'équité et à la faveur Souveraine de Sa Majesté Impériale, notre Seigneur et Maître, dont l'esprit est éclairé par des inspirations divines, et je la supplie de daigner user de clémence envers ces populations qui ont, pendant nombre d'années, tant souffert des évènemens amenés par la force des choses, et qui méritent de jouir, sous les auspices de Sa Hautesse, de repos et de tranquillité. Je supplie donc Sa Hautesse, que par un effet de sa bonté Souveraine, elle veuille protéger les habitans de ces contrées en les dispensant d'une condition extrêmement onéreuse qui redoublerait leurs ouffrances.

Fort de ma sincérité et de mon dévouement, je pense qu'eu égard aux circonstances actuelles, on voudra bien me faire grâce de droits à payer, et cela pour deux ou trois ans. En employant alors tous mes efforts pour faire fleurir cette belle possession de Sa Majesté Impériale, je tâcherai d'assurer le repos et la tranquillité des habitans, et de leur faire bénir le nom de Sa Hautesse le Sultan, notre Seigneur et Maître, et de rendre un service essentiel en faisant prospérer et fleurir une partie de ses Etats. Mais à quoi bon? La divergence d'opinions complique l'affaire. Quoiqu'il en soit, comptant sur ma grande franchise et sur mon parfait dévouement, je ne désespère point de voir enfin les opinions réunis à mon égard. En attendant, des conditions dont il s'agit, j'ai accepté les suivantes:

En tems de paix le nombre de troupes Egyptiennes n'excédera pas celui de 18,000 hommes.

Aucun nouveau bâtiment de guerre ne sera construit sans l'autorisation de Sa Hautesse.

La monnaie Impériale qui sera frappée en Egypte, sera pareille, sous les rapports du poid, de l'aloi et des formes, à la monnaie Impériale qui sera frappée à Constantinople.

Il sera défendu de faire des incursions comme cela se pratiquait autrefois de tems à autre, dans les villages de la Nigritie, dans lesquelles on enlevait des hommes et des femmes, et des jeunes gens dont on faisait des Eunuques, état qui est un obstacle à la procréation.

Les troupes de terre et de mer, soldats et officiers, seront habillés comme les troupes Impériales; leurs drapeaux seront tout à fait les mêmes.

Ces conditions seront exécutées conformément à la volonté Souveraine.

Il y a seulement ceci à dire quant à l'habillement: c'est que les habitans de ces pays-ci n'y sont pas accoutumés, et qu'on ne saurait faire un changement tout à coup. Il faut s'y prendre tout doucement, et les y accoutumer peu à peu. Mais, s'il plait à Dieu, la volonté de Sa Hautesse sera faite à cet égard aussi.

En acceptant sans hésitation les conditions ci-dessus énumérées, j'ai

donné une preuve suffisante de ma franchise et de la loyauté de mon dévouement. Ainsi, lorsque Votre Altesse aura pris connaissance de mes excuses pour ne pas accepter les autres conditions,—excuses que j'ai développées plus haut,—ce sera un acte de clémence digne de Sa Majesté Impériale que de me dispenser de ces conditions, ou de les modifier.

(Translation.)

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Highness's letter, by which I have learnt that my alacrity in proving by facts my devotion and my submission to him who is the shadow of God on earth, having been very agreeable to him, he has deigned to reinstate me in the Government of Egypt with hereditary succession, and that the Imperial Firman which contains some conditions attached to that hereditary succession, and which is decorated at the top with an Imperial Ordinance, was sent to me by his Excellency Said Muhib Effendi, one of the principal servants of the Sublime Porte, and Minister of Justice. In conformity with my duty as a devoted subject, I ordered a procession of honour to be formed, which I sent to meet his Excellency; I caused numerous salutes to be fired by the land batteries and by the ships, and the vessels to be dressed in colours: rejoicings which filled with joy and with contentment the hearts of the subjects of the Sublime Porte, who addressed prayers to the Most High for the preservation of the days and for the prosperity of His Imperial Majesty. May the Supreme Ruler of the Universe be pleased to ordain that our most august, most mighty, and most powerful Padishah and Master shall for ever spread abroad his favours over mankind, and shine in the kingdom of justice and of equity.

It is clear and evident that whatsoever efforts my children, my posterity and myself, even to the time of our death, may make to fulfil the duties of our devotion, we shall never be able to evince as we ought our gratitude for these distinguished favours. Nevertheless, I am confident that His Highness, who is full of generosity and of clemency, moved by his magnanimous character, will not consider it worthy of himself that, while the Creator of the World exempts mankind from harsh conditions, the Padishahs who are endowed with divine qualities, should attach to their benefits and to their favours, conditions which cannot be executed. I therefore take the liberty to set forth here my reasons for not accepting certain conditions.

And in the first place, as respects the hereditary succession, it is said that it shall belong to my male posterity, and that the government of Egypt shall be conferred upon the individual who shall have been preferred by the Sultan. I also am convinced that in fact it is better that the hereditary succession should appertain to the male line. But time and experience alone can show which of the children is the best and most worthy subject; and the family here, and the principal servants of the family, will know this point. It is clear then that if it is laid down as a condition that the hereditary succession shall pass from the elder to the elder, in the male line, the existing family and its principal servants will demand that the eldest should be appointed, and His Highness will deign to agree to their demand, and in this manner good order and tranquillity will be maintained. It is evident, moreover, that His Highness moved by sentiments of clemency, desires the maintenance of repose and of tranquillity, and it is for that reason that I request that the question of the hereditary succession may be settled as has been stated above.

Next comes the complete execution in Egypt of the dispositions of the Hatti-Sheriff of Gulhané, of the laws of the Sublime Porte established, or to be established, and of all the Treaties made or to be made with friendly Powers.

All the principles established by the above-mentioned Hatti-Sheriff, as well as the greater part of the consequences which result from it, are for many years put in practice here, only some of these consequences not being in unison with the disposition of the countries and the nature of

things, have necessarily remained inoperative. Still, nevertheless, nothing, thank God, is done under the auspices of His Highness which is not in conformity with equity and moderation.

Let us pass now to my proceedings with respect to the friendly Powers. These proceedings have, from all times, been based on their treaties with the Sublime Porte. I have not, and I shall not have, in my individual capacity, treaties with them. In my character of subject, and of submissive subject, it is my duty to conform my conduct to the treaties existing between the Sublime Porte and other Powers.

As regards the laws made or to be made by the Sublime Porte for the internal administration of His Highness' dominions, I will state as follows respecting the military laws and those of civil administration. Your Highness is aware that the system of regular troops was introduced into Egypt twenty years ago. Now at the time when that system was introduced, I caused the French military code to be translated, I had it drawn up by the Ulemas, adapted to the capacity of the natives, and to the nature of their dispositions, and made conformable to the injunctions of the holy laws; and this has become a lawful book in the hands of the public, a book, of which the arrangements have in the long run been adopted gradually by all; so that at the present time every one conforms himself to and submits to it. Your Excellency doubtless therefore sees that there are numerous inconveniences in abrogating laws solidly fixed, in order to set up new ones in their place. I accordingly request that this code may be suffered to remain as it is.

The affairs of each country depend on the nature of its position. Hence the natural necessity of laying down the principles of administration in a country, according to the nature of the affairs which are peculiar to it; and it is evident that laws made for another country cannot be applied to this country. That is a natural rule which is observed even in the States of Europe, where each part of a kingdom has laws analogous to the dispositions of the inhabitants, I request therefore, that in consideration of what is required by the rules of good administration and of prudence, the abrogation of the existing regulations may be waved.

Another point: namely, the levying of the tenths, of the other duties, and taxes, in the same manner as shall be the case in the other parts of the Empire, and the collection, in the first instance, and without abatement for charges, on account of the Sublime Porte, of the fourth part of the annual amount of the custom-duties, tenths, taxes, and all the revenues of Egypt. With regard to the mode of levying, I say, it is notorious that arbitrary imposts and fixed duties are in every country two distinct things, and that this distinction arises from its being necessary to settle the imposts according to the state of the population, and the position of the countries, and according to the state of affairs and the operations of individuals. It is for this reason that the whole system observed in the parts of the Empire situated in Asia and in Europe, could not be enforced in the parts of the Empire situated in Africa, wherefore I pray to be exempted from this also.

The condition of setting apart for the Sublime Porte the fourth part of the revenues, previously to deducting from them any expenditure, is one which it is impossible to comply with, and this is proved by the fact that, even the Great Powers do not derive, I do not say a fourth part of the revenues, but even much less than that, from numerous parts of their kingdoms which they have placed in the most flourishing condition possible, and the population of which are in easy and tranquil circumstances. In this respect, as under all circumstances I have recourse to the equity and sovereign power of His Imperial Majesty, our Lord and Master, whose mind is illuminated by divine inspiration, and I supplicate him to be pleased to show clemency towards these people who for a number of years have suffered so much from events brought on by the force of circumstances, and who deserve to enjoy repose and tranquillity under the auspices of His Highness. I beseech therefore His Highness, that agreeably to his sovereign goodness, he will be pleased to protect the inhabitants of these countries, by relieving them from an extremely burthensome condition which would increase their sufferings.

In consideration of my sincerity and of my devotion, I think that under existing circumstances, I ought to be excused from payments for two or three years. Employing in that case all my efforts to cause the prosperity of this fair possession of His Imperial Majesty, I will endeavour to ensure the repose and tranquillity of the inhabitants, and to cause them to bless the name of His Highness the Sultan our Lord and Master, and to render essential service by making a portion of his dominions prosperous and flourishing. But to what purpose? The difference of opinion complicates the business. Be that as it may, reckoning on my great frankness, and on my perfect devotion, I do not despair of seeing, at length, opinions agreed with respect to myself. Meanwhile, of the conditions in question I have accepted the following.

In time of peace, the number of Egyptian troops shall not exceed 18,000 men.

No new vessel of war shall be built without the permission of His Highness.

The Imperial money which shall be coined in Egypt, shall resemble, in respect to weight, alloy, and shape, the Imperial money which shall be coined at Constantinople.

It shall be forbidden to make inroads, as was heretofore occasionally the case, into the villages of Nigritia, in which men and women were carried off, and young persons, who were made eunuchs,—a state which is an impediment to procreation.

The land and sea forces, soldiers and officers, shall be dressed as the Imperial troops; their flags shall be altogether the same.

These conditions will be executed in conformity with the Sovereign will.

There is only this to be said with regard to the clothing; that the inhabitants of these countries are not accustomed to it, and that it would be impossible to effect a change all at once. It is necessary to proceed gently, and to accustom them to it by degrees. But, please God, the will of His Highness shall be done in this respect also.

In accepting without hesitation the conditions above enumerated, I have given a sufficient proof of my frankness and of the sincerity of my devotion. Wherefore, when your Highness shall have made yourself acquainted with my excuses for not accepting the other conditions, excuses which I have explained above, it will be an act of clemency worthy of His Imperial Majesty, to relieve me of those conditions or to modify them.

No. 210.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Beauvale.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, April* 2, 1841.

HER Majesty's Government have this morning received from Lord Ponsonby the despatch of which I inclose a copy, transmitting a translation of the letter addressed by Mehemet Ali to the Grand Vizier, in reply to the firmans sent to Mehemet Ali announcing his restoration to the Pashalic of Egypt, with the additional privilege of hereditary succession for his descendants, and stating the conditions attached by the Sultan to those grants.

Her Majesty's Government regret to find the letter of Mehemet Ali so little in accordance with that unconditional submission which he had in the first instance announced; for, in fact, that letter, (if the true meaning of it is extracted from the involved and ambiguous phraseology in which it is wrapped up,) announces Mehemet Ali's refusal to accept the greater part of the conditions, including several of those which the Four Powers have considered indispensable.

For, first, with regard to the manner in which the hereditary succession is to be granted to his descendants, Mehemet Ali implies that it is to be the Pasha for the time being, who is to choose his own successor; a principle directly at variance with that laid down in the Collective Note of the 30th of January, and in the Note of the 13th of March.

It has always been the clear intention of the Four Powers, in advising the Sultan to grant hereditary succession to Mehemet's family, that this succession should in each case be an exercise of the Sovereign right of the Sultan; and the condition specially insisted upon by the Austrian Government, that no descendant of Mehemet Ali should become legally Pasha of Egypt, till he had received his investiture at Constantinople from the hands of the Sultan, was evidently intended to maintain that principle; and to reserve to the Sultan the power of rejecting any unfit person, by withholding from him the requisite investiture.

Therefore this demand of Mehemet Ali, that the members of his family, and the chief officers employed in Egypt, shall, on each vacancy, choose that one of his descendants whom they may think the best and most worthy, will probably have been rejected by the Porte as inconsistent with the advice and opinion of the Four Powers.

It is to be hoped, however, that the Sultan will have given a fair and reasonable explanation of that part of his firman which relates to this point, and will have declared that it is his intention, on every vacancy, to choose that one of Mehemet Ali's descendants, who, according to the European principle of primogeniture, would be the next in order of succession, unless such candidate should be disqualified by nonage or by physical disability, and that in such case the next in order should be appointed instead of him.

It is for the interest of all parties that such an arrangement should be made, because, unless a deciding power be reserved to the Sultan, civil contests and struggles of conflicting claimants for the Pashalic, are certain to arise; and such disputes would, in the first place, disturb the tranquillity of Egypt; and, in the next place, lead to the interference of the Sultan by force of arms, and probably to the removal of Mehemet Ali's family altogether.

Mehemet Ali then goes on to say, that he declines carrying into execution in Egypt the Hatti-Sheriff of Gulhané; but it is to be remembered that this Hatti-Sheriff has already been proclaimed in Egypt by an officer sent thither for that purpose by the Porte; and as this Hatti-Sheriff forms part of the laws of the Empire, its strict execution in Egypt is declared by the Collective Note of the 30th of January, 1841, to be considered by the Four Powers as "indispensable."

The next passage in Mehemet's letter relates to the Treaties concluded by the Sultan with Foreign Powers; and this passage, though ambiguously worded, would seem to imply that Mehemet Ali acquiesces in the application of all those Treaties to Egypt; if it were not that in the concluding part of his letter, where he sums up the conditions which he means to accept, he makes no mention of this one. But, nevertheless, this condition has been declared by the Note of the 30th of January, to be "indispensable."

The letter then goes on to mention the general laws of the Turkish Empire, and divides them into two classes,—the first Military, the second Administrative.

With regard to the first class, Mehemet Ali says, that for some years past, a Military Code has been in force in Egypt, which is founded upon the Military Code of France, and that he wishes that this Code should continue in force. It must be owned that this request seems reasonable, and in all probability the Porte could not do better than to adopt and apply to the rest of the Sultan's army, the Military Code which has been established by Mehemet Ali for the troops in Egypt.

But Mehemet Ali also requests, that all his administrative laws may also remain in force; and this request is incompatible with the application of the whole of the Turkish laws to Egypt; and, moreover, the probability is, that the real object of this request is, that Mehemet Ali may thereby be enabled to maintain those abuses, and to continue those arbitrary and vexatious proceedings, by which he has inflicted so much poverty and misery upon the people of Egypt, and has succeeded in applying all the wealth and resources of the country to the prosecution of his military schemes.

It is likely that the Sultan will refuse to comply with this request as

entirely incompatible with the unanimous opinion and advice of the Four Powers.

It is scarcely necessary to remark upon the fallacy of the argument in regard to this point, which Mehemet Ali founds upon the fact that many countries, which now are provinces of some powerful State, had laws and institutions of their own, before they were by conquest, or in consequence of marriages, or by other means, incorporated in the States to which they now belong, and have since their incorporation retained their ancient laws and institutions: for there can be no real analogy between the ancient laws of such provinces, and the arbitrary regulations which Mehemet Ali has established in Egypt during the last twenty years, without any rightful authority to do so.

With regard to imposts and taxes, Mehemet Ali declines to confine himself to collecting such as are legal, and are established by the laws of the Empire, and he demands that he may continue to be allowed to collect extraordinary and arbitrary taxes from the people of Egypt. This demand, of course, the Sultan will at once and peremptorily reject; for there can be no just reason why the same system of taxation should not be applied to the African, as to the Asiatic and European provinces of the Turkish Empire; and the Collective Note and the Treaty of July declare, that no taxes shall be levied in Egypt but those which are legally established; that is to say, established by the laws of the Empire.

With regard to the amount of the tribute to be paid to the Porte, Mehemet Ali states, that it is impossible for him to pay as much as one-fourth of the gross revenue of Egypt; and he urges as an argument in proof of that statement, that even powerful Governments do not draw from many portions of their territories so much as a fourth part of the gross revenue.

But this assertion is not borne out by any fact, because most Governments do draw from each of their provinces the whole of the revenue collected in that province: and they then pay out of the general treasury the charge of the civil and military establishments of the whole State; and it is not easy to say what portion of those aggregate expenses belong to each separate province.

One-fourth of the gross revenue of Egypt may or may not be more than Mehemet Ali ought to pay as tribute to the Sultan. If, indeed, the calculation made by M. Laurin is at all near the truth, that amount would not be too much; because M. Laurin estimates the gross revenue of Egypt, after all the laws and treaties of the Empire shall have been carried into execution in Egypt, at 400,000 purses; and he estimates the expense of the civil, military, and naval establishments, at 100,000 purses; so that if Mehemet Ali were to pay another 100,000 purses as tribute, he would still retain for his own personal expenses 200,000 purses, or a sum double the whole amount of the charge of all his establishments. Now even if the charge of the establishments of Egypt were twice as great as M. Laurin estimates them to be, still this arrangement would leave Mehemet Ali 100,000 purses, or half a million sterling for his own personal expenses; and surely such an arrangement cannot be considered as hard or unjust towards him.

But the ground upon which Mehemet Ali asks for a reduction of the amount of tribute, is not admissible. He founds his request upon an appeal, on behalf of the people of Egypt, to the Sultan's generosity, as if the amount of the payments to be made by that people were to depend, in any degree, upon the amount of Mehemet Ali's tribute. This is a palpable fallacy. The amount to be paid by the people of Egypt will be regulated by the laws which determine the taxes of the Empire; and those taxes will not vary, nor will their produce in Egypt be greater or smaller, whether the Sultan receives a fourth or only a smaller proportion of the whole amount, which the people of Egypt shall according to the law have paid.

Even if the Sultan shall, upon any other grounds, alter his arrangement about the tribute, it is manifest that he cannot be expected to do so in compliance with the particular reasons stated by Mehemet Ali.

But not content with asking for a diminution of tribute, Mehemet

Ali announces his intention of not paying any tribute at all. For notwithstanding the Article in the Treaty which states, that he is not to make any deduction from the arrears of his tribute, on account of the expenses which he has incurred in maintaining the officers and crews of the Turkish fleet, while in the harbour of Alexandria (a stipulation put into the Treaty, expressly at the suggestion of the Austrian Plenipotentiary), Mehemet Ali not only omits all mention of paying any arrears of tribute at all, but proposes to defer paying any prospective tribute for two or three years to come, which clearly means that he does not intend to pay any tribute at all.

After stating what conditions he declines, he proceeds to specify those which he accepts, and they are the following:—

First. That in time of peace (by which, it is probable, he means, when he shall be at peace with the Sultan), the troops to be kept up in Egypt shall not exceed 18,000 men. This, as far as it goes, is satisfactory; for, although he will probably not observe the restriction, yet the violation of it would set the Sultan free with regard to his Pasha.

Secondly. That no new ships of war should be built in Egypt, without the previous consent of the Sultan. This is also a condition which will become in the future important, although it is probable that Mehemet Ali has at present as many ships as he can be able to man.

Thirdly. That the coin in Egypt shall be the same as that in Constantinople. It is believed, that the Turkish coin at present is more debased than the Egyptian, and that Mehemet Ali would be no loser by calling in the coin of Egypt, and reissuing the same nominal amount in Turkish currency.

Fourthly. Mehemet engages to give up his African slave hunts. If this engagement shall be faithfully performed, it will certainly be a great advantage gained for the interests of humanity.

Fifthly. That the uniforms and flags, military and naval, in Egypt, shall be assimilated to those of the rest of the Empire; with the reservation, however, that the change of uniform shall be introduced gradually, which of course means not at all.

But this reservation might well be agreed to by the Sultan; for if Her Majesty's Government have been rightly informed, the Sultan would do more wisely by giving to the rest of his army and navy the dress of the army and navy of Egypt, than by giving to the army and navy of Egypt the dress of the rest of his naval and military forces.

I have already observed, that in this enumeration of the conditions which he professes to accept, Mehemet Ali omits all mention of the condition that the Treaties concluded by the Sultan shall be carried into effect in Egypt.

The Austrian Government will see from the foregoing summary of Mehemet Ali's letter to the Grand Vizier, that Mehemet Ali declines accepting several of the most important of those stipulations which the Four Powers have either advised the Sultan to impose, or have declared to be in their opinion indispensable.

Upon the receipt of that letter this morning, I requested the Representatives of Austria, Prussia, and Russia, to come to me this afternoon, that we might read the letter and consider its contents, and accordingly those Plenipotentiaries came to me at four o'clock.

We all agreed, however, that, in the present state of the matter, there is nothing that could be necessary for us to do. We all felt that the Porte will probably have answered the letter of Mehemet Ali in conformity with the tenor of our Collective Note of the 30th of January to Chekib Effendi; and that, at all events, no step on our part would be expedient unless some commmunication on this subject should be made to us by the Porte.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 211.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, April* 2, 1841.

YOUR despatch of the 9th instant, transmitting a translation of Mehemet Ali's letter to the Grand Vizier in reply to the firmans of the 13th of February, has been this morning received at this Office. Her Majesty's Government regret that the Pasha's letter is so unsatisfactory, and so little in accordance with his previous professions of unconditional submission. In the present state of this matter I have no further instructions to give your Excellency, because it remains to be seen whether the Porte will have answered that letter at once or will have referred to the Conference at London for advice as to the answer to be given. If the Porte shall have applied to the Representatives of the Four Powers at Constantinople for counsel, those Representatives will have found in the Collective Note of the 30th of January a sufficient guide to direct them in advising the Porte; and they will afterwards have found laid down in the Note of the 13th of March the same principles which are stated in the Collective Note of the 30th of January.

I transmit to your Excellency a copy of a despatch which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Vienna, containing some observations which have suggested themselves upon Mehemet Ali's letter.

The Conference assembled to-day to take cognizance of the Pasha's letter, but we all agreed that no further step on our part is at present necessary or expedient on this matter.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 212.

The Marquess of Clanricarde to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 5.)

(Extract.) *St. Petersburgh, March* 23, 1841.

I HAVE received by post your Lordship's despatch of the 8th instant, containing the Protocol signed at London on the 5th instant.

Count Nesselrode has been kind enough to inform me of further proceedings of the Conference that have been reported to him, and of the latest intelligence from Constantinople; viz., the firmans sent by the Divan to Alexandria, and the notes by which these documents were communicated to the Envoys of the Allied Powers, and to the Representatives of the other Governments at Constantinople; and the reply addressed by Lord Ponsonby to the Porte.

Count Nesselrode tells me that he has given no new instructions to M. Titow, but that he has repeated those he originally gave; namely, to be guided by the Treaty of July, and the proceedings of the Conference in London. His Excellency says, Baron Brunnow, who is in the entire confidence of the Emperor, was sent to that Conference expressly to avoid the confusion that might arise by giving instructions to two different Ministers acting apart, and under different circumstances.

No. 213.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 7.)

My Lord, *Therapia, March* 17, 1841.

M. TITOW has communicated to me instructions he received from Count Nesselrode on the subject of Syria, and which have been made known to your Lordship, and approved of by you. M. Titow is anxious

to engage the Ottoman Government to take immediate measures to give satisfaction to the Syrians, but agrees with me in the propriety of our having correct information respecting the old and present state of things in Syria, and he is therefore content that any arrangements to be now made by the Sublime Porte, shall be only temporary and subject to revision. M. Titow also agrees with me that it is particularly necessary the Porte should faithfully perform the promises Rechid Pasha authorized Mr. Wood to make to the Syrians; and he therefore thinks it right that Mr. Wood should be called here to give information on that point, as well as to describe the wishes, wants, and rights of the Syrians, and afford all the notices he can of the best means for combining the measures useful and desirable to the people, with the security of the rights and power of the Ottoman Government.

I have written to Mr. Wood with the consent of Rechid Pasha, and directed him to come to Constantinople.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 214.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, April* 8, 1841.

IN reply to your despatch, of the 17th of March, I have to acquaint your Excellency that I approve of your having directed Mr. Wood to return to Constantinople, in order to furnish such information as he may have acquired in Syria, as to the best means of placing the relations between the Syrians and the Porte on a satisfactory footing.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 215.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 7.)

My Lord, *Therapia, March* 17, 1841.

YESTERDAY I had the honour of conferring with my Colleagues of Austria, Prussia, and Russia, upon the subject of the conduct to be pursued in consequence of the late proceedings of Mehemet Ali.

We had under our cognizance the Official Note from the Sublime Porte, of which I inclose a copy. The subject was long debated and carefully examined by us, and it was determined that each of us should reply to the above-mentioned Official Note in the manner he considered most *à propos*. The Internuncio seemed to think that he ought to advise the Sublime Porte to make a change in the mode fixed by the Sultan's firman for the regulation of the succession of the family of Mehemet Ali to the hereditary Government of Egypt. It was objected, that by so doing, the Sublime Porte would enter into negotiation with Mehemet Ali; that the submission of Mehemet Ali is the basis upon which all has been rested; that it is difficult, if not impossible, to consider his last act otherwise than as a denial of submission; that to negotiate with him is to disregard the basis of all our acts, as it has been prescribed by our Courts; and that the alteration proposed to be made by the Internuncio would be negotiation, and negotiation would *pro tanto* defeat the assertion of Sovereignty made by the firman, and be also in opposition to the declaration made by the Conference at London, in its Note addressed to Chekib Effendi, dated 30th of January. I cannot tell your Lordship what the Internuncio determined to do.

The Count Königsmarck did not state what course he should recommend to the Sublime Porte to follow.

M. Titow said, he should answer, that he would report to his Government the state of affairs, and wait for instructions.

I said I should advise the Porte to remain passive, and to ask its Allies for advice.

I have to state to your Lordship that the Internuncio acquainted us with the information he had just received from Vienna of the probability that the Conference at London was dissolved, and that, if not already separated, it would certainly be so immediately. This intelligence necessarily influenced our conduct, because it would have been useless for the Porte to apply to the Conference after its extinction, and wrong on our part to advise it.

There was question as to the continued stay of the Ottoman Envoy at Alexandria if the Porte should decide for applying to its Allies for advice before it took any steps. M. Titow thought that to recall him might have the appearance of a manifestation of hostility. I concurred with him, and I suggested that means might be taken to put the Envoy privately in mind that his instructions directed him to leave Alexandria after the lapse of a specified period of time, and that he would do well to observe these. This, I think, cannot be an act subject to the interpretation that might be given to an order to him to leave Alexandria, issued *pro re nata*.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure in No. 215.

Official Note from Rechid Pasha to Viscount Ponsonby.

(Traduction.) 21 Moharrem, 1257 / 15 Mars, 1841.

COPIE de la dépêche reçue par la Sublime Porte de la part de Son Altesse Méhémet Ali Pacha, et copie de la dépêche détaillée qu'elle a reçue de la part de son Excellence Saïd Muhib Effendi, ont été communiquées à votre Excellence, par lesquelles elle a vu que Méhémet Ali Pacha a rejeté quelques unes des conditions qui lui avaient été faites et qui sont connues. L'hésitation de Méhémet Ali Pacha à accepter ces conditions modérées n'est guères compatible avec la qualité de sujet, et il n'est pas moins clair, qu'accorder ces demandes telles qu'il les fait, c'est une chose aussi nuisible que contraire aux droits de Souveraineté de Sa Hautesse.

C'est pourquoi Sa Hautesse veut que nous demandions à votre Excellence quelle est votre manière de voir sur la conduite que la Sublime Porte doit tenir, et nous vous prions, en conséquence, de vouloir bien nous faire connaître sans délai vos plans et vos opinions amicales sur cette affaire.

(L.S.) MUSTAPHA RECHID.

(Translation.)

A COPY of the despatch received by the Sublime Porte from his Highness Mehemet Ali Pasha, and a copy of the despatch in detail which it has received from his Excellency Said Muhib Effendi, have been communicated to your Excellency, by which you have seen that Mehemet Ali Pasha has rejected some of the conditions which had been imposed upon him, and which are known.

The hesitation of Mehemet Ali Pasha to accept these moderate conditions is scarcely compatible with the character of a subject, and it is no less clear that to grant the demands as made by him, is a thing as injurious as it is opposed to the rights of the Sultan's sovereignty.

Wherefore the Sultan desires that we should ask what are your Excellency's sentiments as to the course to be pursued by the Sublime

Porte, and we request you in consequence to have the goodness to communicate to us without delay your plans and your friendly opinions upon this matter.

(Sealed) MUSTAPHA RECHID.

No. 216.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 7.)

My Lord, *Therapia, March* 17, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, the copy of a despatch addressed to the Sublime Porte by Muhib Effendi, reporting what took place at several interviews he had with Mehemet Ali.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure in No. 216.

Said Muhib Effendi to the Sublime Porte.

(Traduction.) 5 Moharrem, 1257 / 27 Février, 1841.

SAMEDI, le septième jour de mon départ de Constantinople, vers les deux* heures, j'entrais, après une traversée heureuse, dans le port d'Alexandrie, où le paquebot jeta l'ancre.

Zéki Effendi vint me saluer et me complimenter sur mon arrivée, au nom du Gouverneur d'Egypte, Son Altesse Méhémet Ali Pacha.

Nous nous préparions à aller à terre ensemble, lorsqu'une autre personne est venue de la part de Son Altesse pour demander si le firman Impérial devait être lu ici ou au Caire. Je répondis que le firman devait être lu d'abord ici, et puis au Caire, et qu'ensuite il fallait qu'il fût porté à la connaissance du public. En conséquence de ma réponse, Zéki Effendi me dit d'attendre une ou deux heures, afin que l'on préparât la troupe et la musique; et il nous quitta pour retourner à terre, en me disant qu'il allait revenir pour m'informer de ce qu'il y avait à faire.

Vers les cinq heures, Zéki Effendi revint avec la felouque de Son Altesse; il me dit que les troupes et la musique étaient prêtes; que Son Altesse m'attendait, et que nous pouvions partir. Je lui demandais si le firman allait être lu. Il répondit non, il faut que Son Altesse le voye d'abord. J'allais donc à terre dans la felouque de Son Altesse, accompagné de mon adjoint Shéfiq Bey. Lorsque je débarquais à l'échelle, les bâtimens que Son Altesse possède sous les auspices du Sultan, et qui se trouvaient dans le port, furent pavoisés; l'on tira des coups de canon en signe de joie et de reconnaissance; et une compagnie de troupes de marine, dont les officiers étaient en grande tenue, vint, musique en tête, à ma rencontre.

Enfin, lorsque je me présentais chez le Pacha, Son Altesse, après une conversation indifférente, m'ayant demandé le firman dont j'étais porteur, je le lui remis très-respectueusement.

Son Altesse me fit lire d'abord la lettre du Grand Vizir, et puis le firman relatif à l'hérédité; après quoi, elle me dit: "La publication des conditions que ce firman renferme doit, dans un pays tel que celui-ci, causer des désordres." Je lui répondis, que loin que la publication de ce firman puisse donner lieu à des désordres, il est en lui-même une faveur éclatante dont tout le peuple et ceux qui l'entendront, auront à s'enorgueillir; et conformément à mes instructions, je fis tout l'usage que je

* A huit heures à peu près du matin.

puis de ma langue et de mon jugement pour l'amener à de meilleurs sentimens, en l'y disposant par des propos encourageans et par les menaces nécessaires; et je lui représentai que la nature de cette affaire exigeait que le firman fût lu dans une assemblée solennelle, et porté à la connaissance du public. Le Pacha répliqua: "Que Dieu conserve notre Padichah et bienfaiteur! je suis l'esclave du Sultan. Je ne saurais lui témoigner assez de reconnaissance pour la faveur dont je viens d'être l'objet, et il est de mon devoir d'exécuter promptement tous ses ordres; mais comme la lecture en public de ce firman, dans ce moment-ci, présente quelques inconvéniens, nous en parlerons plus tard, et nous verrons ce qu'il y aura à faire." Je lui dis alors que les conditions dont il s'agit ont été établies avec le concours des Hautes Cours Alliées, que la volonté de Sa Hautesse à cet égard est positive, et que l'hérédité tient à ces conditions. Mais comme Son Altesse avait dit que nous verrons tout cela après, Sami Bey, qui était aussi présent, prenant la parole: "L'Effendi," dit il, "est fatigué du voyage; que Votre Altesse lui permette d'aller reposer." A ces mots, la séance fut levée, et je me rendis à la maison de Sami Bey, qui m'avait été destinée.

Lundi je me rendis de nouveau auprès du Pacha. "Comment vous portez-vous, mon fils?" demanda Son Altesse; "Etes-vous bien? Avez-vous reposé?" A ces questions je répondis: "Je suis à mon aise, parceque, grâce à Dieu, les démêlés et les différends qui ont pendant quelque tems traîné en longueur, venant de cesser sous les auspices de Sa Majesté Impériale, il n'y a plus aucune scission, aucune division. Cependant, les propos que Votre Altesse a tenus l'autre jour tendant à faire voir que quelques unes des conditions dont il s'agit ne sauraient vous convenir, et qu'il n'est pas convenable de lire publiquement le Firman Impérial, m'ont extrêmement affligé."

"Mon fils," répliqua le Pacha, "la lecture publique du firman est sujette à une foule d'inconvéniens. En premier lieu, je demande, comment peut-on gouverner l'Egypte avec ce nombre de troupes?" "Grâce à Dieu, il n'y a plus en Egypte des troubles d'aucune espèce; et ce nombre de troupes a été jugé suffisant pour la défense du pays." "Fort bien, fort bien! mais ce pays-ci est la clef de l'Afrique, la clef même, peut-être, de Constantinople. Et quoiqu'il n'y ait pas de troubles ici, il est de l'intérêt de la Sublime Porte qu'il y ait beaucoup de troupes en Egypte; car, lorsqu'on en aura besoin, comme en cas d'une guerre, je pourrais envoyer la quantité de troupes qu'on me demandera et qu'on m'ordonnera d'envoyer." "Il faut effectivement que Votre Altesse rende ces sortes de services à la Sublime Porte; et c'est ce que nous espérons." "Mais supposé même, Dieu garde, que quelque évènement ait lieu en Afrique; eh bien?" "Alors, aussitôt qu'on l'aura fait connaître à la Sublime Porte, et qu'on aura demandé son autorisation pour lever le nombre de nouvelles troupes qui sera jugé nécessaire, nul doute que la Sublime Porte n'accorde cette permission, et n'y donne son assistance nécessaire, d'apres l'exigeance du cas. Le nombre de troupes, tel qu'il vient d'être fixé, est suffisant." "Puisque la Sublime Porte doit m'accorder l'autorisation que je lui demanderai au besoin, et qu'elle m'y donnera son assistance, ce que vous dites est raisonnable; et le nombre fixé à présent parait, en effet, suffisant pour la défense de la Province d'Egypte. Ainsi, je séparerai des troupes qui arrivent de la Syrie, et de celles qui se trouvent ici, les hommes peu propres au service; et mettant en exécution la volonté du Sultan à cet égard, je n'emploierai pas plus de troupes que le nombre qui a été fixé; et toutes les fois qu'on aura besoin de troupes, et qu'on m'en demandera, j'aurai soin de les équiper, et je m'empresserai de les expédier à tel endroit qu'on voudra."

Tel est l'engagement pris par Son Altesse. Quant à la flotte existante en Egypte, attendu qu'elle fait partie de la flotte Impériale, le Pacha a donné sa parole positive que, comme pour les troupes de terre, toutes les fois que la Sublime Porte demandera un tel nombre de bâtimens, ou toute la flotte, il ne manquera pas d'expédier sans aucun délai tel nombre de bâtimens qu'on lui aura demandé, et même toute la flotte, au grand complet; qu'il renonce à faire construire un plus grand nombre de bâtimens; et qu'il ne fera pas construire un nouveau bâtiment pour remplacer celui

qui ne sera pas en état de tenir la mer, qu'après en avoir obtenu la permission de la Sublime Porte.

Le Pacha s'engagea aussi de se conformer, par rapport à la monnaie, à ce qui est prescrit par le Firman, et à faire battre des monnaies sur les modèles qui lui seront envoyés de l'Hôtel Impérial des monnaies.

Le Pacha demanda, "Comment peut-on changer les soldats une fois chaque cinq ans, ainsi qu'il est dit dans le firman, et dans le code des réglemens Impériaux?" "Considérant que les soldats formant les troupes réglées Impériales, se trouvent depuis longtems éloignés de leur pays natal, et de leurs familles, et que quelques fois leurs affaires sont en souffrance, il vient d'être inséré dans le code des réglemens, par ordre de Sa Hautesse, qu'au bout de cinq ans on changera, par compassion, ceux des soldats qui désirent être remplacés. Or, puisque l'Egypte fait partie des Etats de Sa Hautesse, que ses habitans sont les sujets de la Sublime Porte, et que les troupes Egyptiennes font partie des armées réglées Impériales, Votre Altesse doit mettre ses soins à agir à ce sujet d'après la volonté Souveraine." "Il faut, il est vrai, que les troupes Egyptiennes servent aussi d'après le code des réglemens Impériaux. Mais les Arabes ne ressemblent point au peuple de la Roumélie. Il faut à un soldat pour le moins cinq ans pour apprendre à faire l'exercice du pas: cela étant, si au bout de chaque cinq ans il faut les remplacer par d'autres, ce ne serait plus des troupes réglées, mais tout uniment des troupes irrégulières qu'on aurait. Vous le savez vous-même; le naturel des hommes d'un pays de la Roumélie diffère de celui des hommes d'un autre pays. Les soldats de ces contrées-ci doivent être remplacés une fois les quinze ans; parceque, supposé qu'on les remplace chaque cinq ans, alors et l'agriculture en souffrira et les troupes ne seront pas des troupes vraiment réglées. Enfin, je connais moi l'état des choses de ce pays-ci parfaitement bien, et je vous dis la vérité toute nue. Je suis tout-à-fait excusable en cela, et je suis obligé de prier qu'on me favorise sur ce point. Et puis le firman Impérial dit que le Gouverneur d'Egypte ne doit pas conférer un grade supérieur à celui de Col-Aghassi*. Or, j'étais autorisé auparavant à donner même le grade de Général de Brigade. Comment puis-je faire ce que l'on propose maintenant, tandis que jusqu'ici j'ai donné des grades militaires sans avoir à en demander l'autorisation?"

Le Pacha ayant parlé dans ce sens-là, je lui répondis de la manière suivante: "Effectivement vous étiez autorisé par le passé à donner des grades militaires, mais le système suivi alors était bon pour ces tems-là. A présent, Dieu en soit loué, tout a changé, et même les Mouchirs et les Vizirs, qui sont dans la nécessité d'avoir des troupes réglées Impériales auprès d'eux, ne peuvent pas conférer un grade au-dessus de Col-Aghassi, qu'au préalable ils n'en ayent obtenu l'autorisation. Or, vos troupes étant considérées comme des troupes réglées Impériales, il est flatteur pour Votre Altesse de demander l'autorisation de donner des rangs militaires." "Eh, bien, mon fils, ce point est tout-à-fait insignifiant pour la Sublime Porte. Les serviteurs jouissent, suivant les mérites, de différens degrés de faveurs auprès de leurs maîtres. Ne pas être à présent autorisé à faire ce que j'étais autorisé à faire autrefois, c'est une chose qui me fera du tort. Je dois donc indispensablement demander et prier d'avoir l'autorisation que j'ai eu jusqu'ici." "Monseigneur, pourquoi dites-vous que ce point ne signifie rien? Les troupes réglées sont, pour ainsi dire, l'âme de la Sublime Porte, et c'est un devoir pour nous tous de maintenir tous les réglemens qui les concernent." "Oui, sans doute c'est un devoir pour nous tous de maintenir les réglemens qui les concernent; mais moi je ne parle que de l'autorisation dont je dois être revêtu comme je l'ai déjà dit."

C'est en vain que j'ai tant raisonné sur ce point; tous les moyens de persuasion ont échoué; c'est-à-dire, qu'il ne m'a pas été possible de le faire accéder à la proposition.

Je parlais de l'envoi à Constantinople de l'un de ses fils. "Ce sera très bien," dit le Pacha, "mais lequel enverrai-je? Enverrai-je mon

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* Grade immédiatement au-dessous de celui de Chef de Bataillon.

petit-fils Abbas Pacha?" A ces questions je répondis: "Il vaut mieux que Votre Altesse envoie un de ses fils qui présenterait ses respects à Sa Majesté Impériale, et qui ferait la connaissance des Ministres de la Sublime Porte; ce qui fera plaisir à Sa Hautesse." "Cela étant, comme mon fils Saïd Bey est un jeune homme lettré, qui parle Persan, Arabe, Français, et Anglais, et qui est un marin instruit, c'est lui que j'enverrai au printems prochain, s'il plait à Dieu, à Constantinople, accompagné de Sami Bey.

"Le firman qui parle de l'hérédité," ajouta le Pacha, "dit que lorsque, par la volonté de Dieu, il y aura vacance dans le Gouvernement d'Egypte, la Sublime Porte élira un des membres de ma famille, et l'appellera à Constantinople afin qu'il y soit nommé Gouverneur de la province d'Egypte. Mais il est évident qu'une pareille disposition fera naître des dissensions, et peut-être même une guerre entre les membres de ma famille. Je ne veux pas moi, étant en vie, exposer ma famille à de pareils malheurs, parcequ'en effet, si on allait nommer Gouverneur le cadet, tandis que l'aîné existe, cela ferait naître entre eux une froideur qui évidemment dégénérerait, à la longue, en dissensions et en troubles."

"Dieu ayant donné à chaque homme un degré plus ou moins grand d'esprit et de jugement, il y aura dans chaque membre de votre famille aussi plus ou moins de capacité; or, si l'on donne le Gouvernement de l'Egypte à celui des membres de la famille qui montre les meilleures dispositions à bien gouverner, et celui-ci gouverne avec cette sagesse et ce jugement dont il est doué, voilà le repos et la tranquillité de votre famille assurés. La Sublime Porte y a réflêchi plus que Votre Altesse, et à cet égard aussi la volonté Souveraine est telle que je le dis." "Non, non, le grand n'obéira pas au petit; il y aura des dissensions et des querelles parmi les membres de la famille qui finiront tous par être dispersés; ce qui est aussi clair que le jour. Quand Dieu permettra qu'il y ait vacance, comment pourra-t-on savoir d'abord lequel des membres de ma famille est le plus capable de gouverner?" "Monseigneur, votre famille n'est pas à comparer à d'autres familles; elle est connue, célèbre, et par conséquent chacun de ses membres est bien connu à la Sublime Porte, ainsi qu'à leurs Excellences les Ministres vos confrères."

Voilà ce que je répondis au Pacha, mais Son Altesse répliqua: "Il n'est pas possible de voir tout d'abord lequel des membres de la famille est le plus capable. En un mot, dorénavant, lorsqu'avec la permission du Ciel, la place de Gouverneur sera devenue vacante, l'aîné de ma famille, qui sera jugé capable d'être Gouverneur, doit être proposé dans une pétition de la part de toute la notabilité de l'Egypte, des Oulémas, et des personnes qui se trouvent dans ma famille et dans mon département; et après cela la Sublime Porte devra accueillir leur demande, accorder le Gouvernement à celui-là, et l'appeler aussi à Constantinople pour cela." Dieu sait si j'ai employé tous les raisonnemens possibles pour le convaincre; mais le Pacha ne fit que répéter ces propres argumens. Bref, il finit par me dire qu'il ne peut pas, lui, de son vivant, laisser sa famille en danger, et qu'il priera Sa Hautesse de lui accorder sa demande.

Lorsque je parlais au Pacha de l'envoi au trésor Impérial du quart des revenus de l'Egypte ainsi que cela est expressément dit dans le firman sur l'hérédité, Son Altesse répondit: "Les revenus fixes de l'Egypte ne peuvent pas faire face aux dépenses ordinaires. Si l'on demande comment donc se payent tant de dépenses, je réponds qu'elles se payent des produits des fermes que moi, mes fils, et mes petits-fils nous possédons sous les auspices de Sa Hautesse, et des produits du commerce. Je ne sais ce qu'il y a à dire à cela." "Si l'on envoie au trésor Impérial le quart des revenus de l'Egypte, le tiers et les deux tiers du reste suffisent certainement à faire face aux dépenses de Votre Altesse, et il y en a même de trop peut-être, parceque vous avez, d'après la volonté Souveraine, réduit l'armée, et que vous ne devez plus faire construire de nouveaux bâtimens de guerre." "Mon fils, vous me comprenez fort bien; mais je crois que vous voulez me pousser à bout." "Dieu m'en préserve! Et pourquoi me prêtez-vous de mauvaises intentions? Le payement à la Sublime Porte du quart des revenus est une condition attachée à l'hérédité, un point arrêté de commun accord avec les Hautes Cours

Alliées, et la volonté de Sa Hautesse à cet égard est positive. Ainsi, c'est dans vos propres intérêts, et dans ceux de votre famille que je tiens ce langage. Rejeter cette condition, ce qu'à Dieu ne plaise! ou une seule des autres conditions, c'est donner lieu à une nouvelle effusion de sang, qui est une chose terrible. Moi je parle à Votre Altesse sincèrement. Elle agira comme elle jugera à propos." "Ce n'est pas que je veuille montrer de l'hésitation ou de l'opposition. Les Hautes Puissances Alliées, nos amies, ont de la discrétion; elles savent ce que c'est que l'équité; elles n'employent pas la contrainte là où il serait injuste de la faire. Elles comprendront, en jugeant la chose équitablement, que lorsque la quatrième partie des revenus sort d'un pays, ce pays se ruine. Cette province est une possession de la Sublime Porte; qu'elle soit florissante, ou ruinée, l'un et l'autre de ces états touchent de près cet Empire. Enfin, cette condition est tout-à-fait au-dessus de mes forces, c'est une condition impossible." "Monseigneur, la Sublime Porte n'a jusqu'à présent donné l'hérédité à aucun de ses serviteurs. C'est donc, pour ainsi dire, un devoir pour Votre Altesse d'offrir tous les ans, en vous en glorifiant, le quart des revenus de ce pays-ci au trésor Impérial, ainsi que Sa Hautesse le veut, en témoignage de votre reconnaissance pour cette faveur; le Sultan a droit à cela." "Et moi et le pays nous appartenons au Sultan: je ne refuse rien; mais je ne vois aucune modération en cela pour que je puisse m'y montrer disposé. Et quand même, par supposition, j'obéissais aux ordres Souverains, cet argent ne pourra pas être payé, et vous direz, voyez-vous, Méhémet Ali se met de nouveau sur la voie des oppositions. A la vérité, je ne peux dire, oui; je ferai une chose qui est hors de mon pouvoir. Je fais connaître la vérité du fait, et je prie d'être favorisé à cet égard de la part de Sa Hautesse." "Mais, Monseigneur, les revenus de la province d'Egypte sont connus de tout le monde, et la demande d'un quart de ces revenus est une demande modérée. Votre Altesse n'aura plus désormais de trop grandes dépenses à faire; mais supposons même que quelque chose exigeant de grandes dépenses survienne, Votre Altesse pourra s'entendre là-dessus avec la Sublime Porte."

Dans les trois ou quatre entrevues que j'eus avec le Pacha, je tâchai de le persuader qu'il serait fort à propos qu'il prît l'engagement dont il s'agit, parcequ'il aurait ainsi rendu service au trésor Impérial; ce qui aurait été un sujet de contentement pour tous les Ministres de la Sublime Porte; et je lui dis bien des choses dans ce but. Mais loin de m'écouter, il répéta les mêmes objections, et il y insista. Je lui dis de nouveau: "Monseigneur, j'ai osé vous importuner en vous disant tant de choses pour votre propre bien et pour celui de votre famille; tout cela n'a abouti à rien. Eh bien! que Votre Altesse fasse connaître précisément ses intentions et ses désirs à la Sublime Porte, et nous verrons quelle réponse viendra." "Je suis le serviteur et l'esclave du Sultan notre maître. J'écrirai la vérité toute pure, que j'accompagnerai de ma prière; leurs Excellences les Ministres de la Sublime Porte savent ce que c'est que la justice."

Comme après tout cela, tout ce que j'aurais dit n'aurait servi à rien, je pris le parti de me taire, et de lever la séance.

Lorsque nous mîmes en avant les questions de l'habillement, des pavillons des bâtimens, des drapeaux des troupes, et d'autres réglemens, "Mais, oh mon cher," dit le Pacha, "les uniformes des troupes de quelques Puissances diffèrent les uns des autres. Il y a dans les troupes Russes trois sortes d'uniforme: quel mal y a-t-il en cela? Chaque Puissance a son systême et ses réglemens; ce n'est pas le cas de les discuter." "Je dirai seulement, que puisque Votre Altesse est un des plus illustres Vizirs de l'Empire, que l'Egypte aussi est une partie de cet Empire, et comme Votre Altesse le sait fort bien, il est devenu un usage, pour ainsi dire, que les Vizirs et les habitans en Turquie s'habillent comme les Ministres et les Employés à Constantinople; il est essentiel que Votre Altesse adapte chacun de ses systêmes et de ses réglemens à ceux de la Sublime Porte." "C'est fort bien, mon fils, moi je ne m'y oppose pas; moi aussi je désire prendre l'habit d'ordonnance. Mais les hommes ici sont un peu plus

difficultueux qu'ailleurs. Le changement de costume est vraiment une de ces choses qui doivent se faire peu à peu; remettez-vous en à moi, et je ferai le nécessaire en tems et lieu; c'est-à-dire je ferai changer de costume à tous. Quant au pavillon des bâtimens de guerre, il est tout-à-fait le même que celui des bâtimens de la flotte Impériale; seulement les drapeaux des troupes étaient jusqu'ici blancs; lorsqu'on en enverra de Constantinople des modèles, j'en ferai faire de pareils aussi.

Je fis prendre au Pacha les engagemens ci-dessus.

Le Pacha me dit: "D'après les mêmes principes équitables sur lesquels les nouvelles réformes sont basées, chacun ici est sûr de son bien et de sa vie; et tous mettent leurs soins et leur attention à agir en conséquence sur ces points essentiels. Il n'y a que l'assiette des impôts qu'on ne peut adapter dans un pays comme celui-ci au système établi par les réformes; parceque l'on perçoit des habitans, avec la dîme, un impôt annuel connu sous la dénomination "d'Hradjiyé," dont le quantum en argent dépend de l'étendue des terres que chacun possède. "Hradjiyé" est proprement le loyer de ces terres. On ne prend rien de plus à titre d'impôt. Ces pays ne sauraient, en aucune manière, être assimilés aux pays de la Roumélie. Supposé que l'on veuille abolir l'ancien système pour lui en substituer un nouveau; eh bien, dans ce cas, vu le caractère singulier des Arabes, l'ancien système serait tout-à-fait désorganisé, et cela aurait à la fin apporté du désordre. Ainsi, que la Sublime Porte s'en rapporte à ma manière de voir pour l'arrangement de pareilles affaires."

Voilà ce que le Pacha finit par me dire.

Je représentai au Pacha que Sa Hautesse veut que le premier régiment des troupes de ligne Impériales de Marine, ainsi que les milices de la province de Brousse, soient renvoyés complètement à Constantinople, de quelque part qu'ils puissent être. "Ces régimens avaient été expédiés en Syrie. Jusqu'à présent aucune partie de ces troupes n'est revenu ici. Il est à croire que quelques hommes de ces régimens sont devenus "Cavass," et que la plupart des autres sont allés de Beyrout à Constantinople. Le Colonel des Milices, Yadighiar Hassan Bey, est seulement venu en Egypte avec Ibrahim Pacha. Si dorénavant des soldats appartenans à ces régimens arrivent ici, je les enverrai immédiatement à Constantinople conformément à la volonté Souveraine."

D'après les instructions que j'avais reçues, j'ai fait tous mes efforts, comme Dieu le sait, pour remplir ma mission conformément aux désirs de la Sublime Porte; mais le Pacha, mettant en avant les inconvéniens qui, dans sa manière de voir, existent relativement au quart des revenus et à la succession dans sa famille, n'a pas acquiescé à ces points. A grande peine ai-je pu lui faire prendre l'engagement de faire réduire ses troupes, de ne pas faire construire des bâtimens sans en avoir obtenu la permission, de battre la monnaie de la manière indiquée, et de faire les autres choses, ainsi que Sa Hautesse le veut. En parlant de sa famille, je lui dis aussi: "Votre Altesse veut que la succession ait à passer, comme une condition établie, de l'aîné à l'aîné, mais il y a des inconvéniens à cela. Et entre autres, le ci-devant Begler Bey de Tripoli de Barbarie, Mustapha Pacha, fils de Youssouf Pacha, n'ayant pas été capable de gouverner, le pays a été en proie aux désordres, et un autre Gouverneur fut à la fin nommé et envoyé par la Sublime Porte à Tripoli. Or, l'Egypte est une des plus importantes Provinces de l'Empire. Cela étant, et vu que l'on ne sait pas ce qui peut arriver avec le tems, la Sublime Porte, qui pense à tout, a jugé convenable la mesure qu'elle a adoptée." "Effendi, mon fils, vous avez raison; mais mes enfans étant des hommes lettrés, des hommes sensés, il n'y a pas un pareil inconvénient à craindre." "Il est vrai, Altesse, que vos fils qui existent à présent sont des hommes sensés et judicieux; mais de génération en génération, le Gouvernement de l'Egypte peut échoir à un homme sans jugement, et alors, à Dieu ne plaise, on peut s'attendre à ce que la province soit en désordre, que la scission se mette dans votre famille, et qu'il survienne d'autres maux qui ne se présentent pas à l'esprit dans ce moment-ci. L'histoire nous offre une foule d'exemples de choses semblables arrivées autrefois. Peut-être même Votre

Altesse a-t-elle été témoin de pareils évènemens qui touchent de près la Sublime Porte." "Ce pays appartient à la Sublime Porte. Si le Gouvernement de ce pays tombait entre les mains d'un homme incapable, la Sublime Porte le saurait, on le lui écrirait même d'ici; et comme elle ne laissera pas le pays en désordre, il n'y aura aucune espèce de difficulté pour elle de conférer le Gouvernement de la Province à un digne sujet, et elle en a le droit."

Voilà ce que le Pacha finit par dire, en conséquence de quoi j'ai rédigé et divisé par paragraphes le présent rapport, qui ne renferme que la troisième partie de mes discussions avec Méhémet Ali; je l'envoie avec une lettre de sa part à Son Altesse le Grand Vizir, et j'attendrai à Alexandrie la réponse de la Sublime Porte.

(Translation.)

5 Moharrem, 1257.
February 27, 1841.

ON Saturday about two o'clock*, the seventh day after my departure from Constantinople, after a favourable passage, I entered the port of Alexandria where the packet came to an anchor.

Zeki Effendi came to salute me and to compliment me on my arrival, in the name of the Governor of Egypt, his Highness Mehemet Ali Pasha.

We were preparing to land together, when another person came from his Highness to ask whether the Imperial firman was to be read here or at Cairo? I replied, that the firman ought, in the first place, to be read here, and then at Cairo, and that it should afterwards be made known to the public. In consequence of my reply, Zeki Effendi told me to wait an hour or two, in order that a guard and band of music might be prepared; and he left us to return on shore, telling me that he would return to inform me what there would be to do.

About five o'clock, Zeki Effendi returned with the boat of his Highness; he told me that the guards and the band were ready; that his Highness awaited me, and that we might depart. I asked him whether the firman was going to be read? He replied, "No; it is necessary that his Highness should see it first." I therefore landed in his Highness's boat, accompanied by my assistant Shefig Bey. When I disembarked at the landing place, the vessels which, under the auspices of the Sultan, His Highness possesses, and which were in the harbour, were decorated with flags. Cannon were fired in token of joy and gratitude; and a company of marines, the officers of which were in full uniform, with the band at their head, came to meet me.

At length, when I presented myself to the Pasha, his Highness after a conversation on indifferent matters, having asked me for the firman of which I was the bearer, I delivered it to him very respectfully.

His Highness first of all made me read the letter of the Grand Vizier, and then the firman respecting the hereditary dignity; after which he said to me, "The publication of the conditions which this firman contains must cause great disorders in such a country as this." I answered him, that far from the publication of this firman giving rise to disorders, it is in itself a striking favour, which all the people and those who may hear it will have cause to be proud of; and, in conformity with my instructions, I made every use I could of my language and my judgment to bring him to a better way of thinking, by making encouraging statements and using the necessary menaces; and I represented to him that the nature of this affair required that the firman should be read in a solemn assembly, and made known to the public. The Pasha replied: "May God preserve our Padishah and benefactor! I am the slave of the Sultan. I cannot show him sufficient gratitude for the favour of which I have just been the object, and it is my duty to execute promptly all his orders. But as the reading of this firman publicly presents some inconvenience at the present moment, we will talk about it afterwards, and we will see what there is to be done." I then told him that the conditions in question have been agreed upon with the concurrence of the High Allied Courts; that the will of His Highness is positive in this respect, and that the hereditary government depends upon these conditions. But as his Highness had said that we should see about all that afterwards, Sami Bey, who was also present, taking up the conversation, said: "The Effendi is

* About 8 o'clock in the morning.

tired with his voyage; will your Highness permit him to go and repose." At these words the meeting broke up, and I repaired to the house of Sami Bey which had been assigned to me.

On Monday I went again to the Pasha. "How do you do, my son?" asked his Highness; "Are you well? Have you rested?" To these questions I answered: "I am at ease, because, thanks to God, the quarrels and the differences which have been so long protracted, being now about to cease under the auspices of His Imperial Majesty, there is no longer any schism, any division. Nevertheless the sentiments which your Highness expressed the other day tending to show that some of the conditions in question would not suit you, and that it is not expedient to read the Imperial firman publicly, have grieved me excessively."

"My son," replied the Pasha, "the reading of the firman publicly is subject to a number of inconveniences. In the first place I ask, how can Egypt be governed with that number of troops?"—"Thanks to God there are no longer any troubles of any kind in Egypt; and that number of troops has been deemed sufficient for the defence of the country."—"Very well, very well! But this country is the key of Africa, perhaps even the key of Constantinople. And although there are no disturbances here, it is the interest of the Sublime Porte that there should be a large amount of troops in Egypt; for when they are required, as in case of a war, I should be able to send the number of troops I might be asked for and ordered to send."—"It is indeed meet that your Highness should render these kind of services to the Sublime Porte; and it is what we expect."—"But suppose even, which God forbid, that any event should take place in Africa; what then?"—"Then, as soon as it shall have been made known to the Sublime Porte, and that its authority shall have been asked to raise the number of fresh troops which may be judged necessary, no doubt the Sublime Porte will grant that permission, and will give the necessary assistance according to the urgency of the case. The number of troops, such as it has been fixed, is sufficient." "Since the Sublime Porte is to grant me the permission which I may ask for in case of need, and that it will give me its assistance, that which you say is reasonable; and the number now fixed appears in truth sufficient for the defence of the province of Egypt. Thus I shall discharge the men who are not fit for service from the troops which may arrive from Syria and from those which are now here; and, carrying the will of the Sultan into execution in this respect, I will not employ more troops than the number which has been fixed; and at all times when troops may be required and that I shall be asked for them, I shall take care to equip them, and I shall hasten to send them to whatever place they may be required at."

Such is the engagement taken by his Highness. With regard to the fleet existing in Egypt, inasmuch as it forms a portion of the Imperial fleet, the Pasha has given his word positively, that, in like manner as with the land forces, whenever the Porte shall require a certain number of vessels, or all the fleet, he will not fail to send such a number of vessels as he may have been called upon to furnish, and even the whole fleet, at its full complement. That he gives up the right of building a larger number of vessels; and that he will not cause a new vessel to be built to replace any one that may be unfit to go to sea, without having obtained the permission of the Sublime Porte.

The Pasha also engaged to conform to what is prescribed by the firman with respect to the coinage, and to cause the money to be coined according to the patterns which will be sent to him from the Imperial mint.

The Pasha asked, "How can the soldiers be changed once in every five years, as it is stated in the firman and in the code of Imperial regulations?" "Considering that the soldiers composing the Imperial regular troops are for a long time removed from their native country and their families, and that sometimes their affairs suffer thereby, it has been settled in the code of regulations by His Highness's order, that those soldiers who may desire it shall be changed out of compassion at the expiration of five years. Now, since Egypt forms a part of the territories of His Highness, since its inhabitants are the subjects of the Sublime Porte, and since the Egyptian troops form a part of the Imperial regular armies, your Highness should take pains to act in this matter according to the sovereign pleasure."—"It is necessary, it is true, that the Egyptian troops should serve according to the code of the Imperial regulations. But the Arabs do not at all resemble the people of Roumelia. A soldier requires

at least five years to learn how to march; this being the case, if at the end of every five years they are to be replaced by others, there would no longer be regular troops, but simply irregular troops. You are aware of it yourself: the character of the men of one district of Roumelia differs from that of the men of another district. The soldiers of these parts ought to be replaced once every fifteen years; because, supposing them to be replaced every five years, in that case both agriculture would suffer, and the troops will not be really regular troops. In short, I know the state of things in this country perfectly well, and I tell you the plain truth. I am quite justified in this, and I am obliged to beg that I may be favoured on this point. And then the firman says that the Governor of Egypt must not confer a rank above that of Col-Aghassi*. Now, I have hitherto been authorized to confer the rank even of Brigadier-General. How can I do what is now proposed, whilst hitherto I have conferred military rank without having to ask authority for so doing?"

The Pasha having spoken in the above sense, I replied to him in the following manner: "You were in truth authorized heretofore to confer military rank; but the system then followed was good for those times. Now, praise be to God, everything has changed, and even the Muchirs and the Viziers who are obliged to have Imperial regular troops about them, cannot confer a rank above that of Col-Aghassi, without having previously obtained authority to do so. Now, your troops being looked upon as Imperial regular troops, it is flattering to your Highness to ask authority to confer military rank."—"Well, my son, this point is quite insignificant for the Sublime Porte. Servants enjoy different degrees of favour with their masters, according to their deserts. Not to be allowed to do now that which I was allowed to do formerly, is a thing which would do me harm. I must, therefore, indispensably request and entreat to have the authority which I have had hitherto."—"My Lord, why do you say that this point signifies nothing? The regular troops are, so to say, the soul of the Sublime Porte, and it is the duty of all of us to maintain the regulations which relate to them."—"Yes, without doubt it is the duty of all of us to maintain the regulations which relate to them; but I only speak of the authority with which I ought to be invested, as I have already said."

It was in vain that I argued so much on this point; all the means of persuasion failed; that is to say, it was impossible for me to make him accede to the proposition.

I spoke of the mission of one of his sons to Constantinople. "That will be very well," said the Pasha, "but which of them shall I send? Shall I send my grandson Abbas Pasha?" To these questions I replied: "It would be better for your Highness to send one of your sons who should present your respects to His Imperial Majesty, and who should make the acquaintance of the Ministers of the Sublime Porte; which will please His Highness."—"That being the case, as my son Saïd Bey is a well-informed young man, who speaks Persian, Arabic, French, and English, and who is a skillful sailor, I will send him next spring, if it pleases God, to Constantinople, accompanied by Sami Bey."

"The firman which makes mention of the hereditary succession," added the Pasha, "says, that whenever, by the will of God, there shall be a vacancy in the Government of Egypt, the Sublime Porte shall choose one of the members of my family, and shall summon him to Constantinople, in order that he may be there named Governor of the Province of Egypt. But it is evident that such an arrangement will give rise to dissensions, and, perhaps, even to a war between the members of my family. I will not, as long as I live, expose my family to such misfortunes, because, in fact, if the youngest were named Governor, while the eldest is in existence, this would cause a coldness to spring up between them, which would evidently in the long run degenerate into dissensions and troubles."

"God having given to every man a greater or less degree of cleverness and judgment, each member of your family will also have more or less capacity; now, if the Government of Egypt is given to that one of the members of the family who manifests the greatest disposition to govern well, and that one governs with the wisdom and judgment with which he is endowed, the tranquillity and repose of your family is hereby ensured. The Sublime Porte has reflected on this more than your Highness has done, and in this respect also the

* Rank immediately below that of Chef de Batallion.

sovereign will is such as I state it to be."—"No, no, the great will not obey the little; there will be dissensions and quarrels among the members of the family, who will end by being all dispersed; which is as clear as day. When God shall be pleased to give a vacancy, how can it then at once be known who among the members of my family is the most capable of governing?"—"My Lord, your family is not to be compared with other families; it is known, celebrated, and consequently every one of its members is well known at the Sublime Porte, as well as by their Excellencies the Ministers, your colleagues."

The above is what I answered to the Pasha, but his Highness rejoined: "It is not possible to discern all at once which of the members of the family is the most capable. In a word, henceforward, when, by the permission of Heaven, the post of Governor shall have become vacant, the eldest of my family who shall be pronounced capable of being Governor, must be proposed in a petition on the part of all the notables of Egypt, the Ulemas, and the persons who are in my family and in my department; and after that the Sublime Porte shall comply with their request, confer the Government upon him, and summon him to Constantinople for that purpose." God knows that I employed all the reasoning possible to convince him; but the Pasha only repeated these same arguments. In short, he concluded by saying, that he cannot, during his lifetime, leave his family in danger, and that he will entreat His Highness to grant his request.

When I spoke to the Pasha of sending a fourth part of the revenues of Egypt to the Imperial treasury, as that is expressly stated in the firman regarding the hereditary dignity, his Highness replied: "The established revenues of Egypt cannot meet the current expences. If it is asked how so many expences are paid, I answer that they are paid out of the produce of the farms which I, and my sons, and my grandsons, possess, under His Highness's auspices, and out of what is produced by commerce. I do not know what can be said to that." "If a quarter of the revenues of Egypt is sent to the Imperial treasury, the third, and the two-thirds of the remainder are certainly enough to meet the expences of your Highness, and there is, perhaps, even too much, because, according to the sovereign will, you have reduced the army, and you are no longer to build new ships of war."—"My son you understand me very well; but I think you wish to drive me to extremities."—"God preserve me from so doing! Why do you attribute bad intentions to me? The payment of a quarter of the revenues to the Sublime Porte is a condition attached to the hereditary dignity, a point agreed upon by common consent with the High Allied Courts, and the will of His Highness is positive in this respect. Therefore it is for your own interests and for those of your family that I hold this language. To reject this condition, which God forbid, or any one of the other conditions, is to give occasion for a fresh effusion of blood, which is a terrible thing. For my part, I speak sincerely to your Highness. You will act as you think fit."—"It is not that I wish to show hesitation or opposition. The High Allied Powers, our friends, possess discretion; they know what justice is; they do not employ coercion where it would be unjust to do it. They will understand, judging the matter equitably, that when the fourth part of its revenue goes out of a country, that country is ruined. This province is a possession of the Sublime Porte; whether it be flourishing or ruined, either of these situations nearly affects that empire. Finally, this condition is quite above my powers, it is an impracticable condition."—"My Lord, up to this moment the Sublime Porte has not granted the hereditary succession to any of its servants. It is, therefore, so to say, your Highness's duty, congratulating yourself thereon, to offer every year, as the Sultan requires, the fourth part of the revenues of this country to the Imperial Treasury, as a mark of gratitude for that favour; the Sultan has a right to that."—"Both I and the country belong to the Sultan—I refuse nothing; but I see no moderation herein which should induce me to show myself disposed to do so. And even supposing I were to obey the sovereign orders, the money cannot be paid, and you will say, do you see, Mehemet Ali is again placing himself in opposition. In truth, I cannot say, yes; I shall do a thing which is out of my power. I make known the real state of the case, and I beg to be favoured in this respect on the part of His Highness."—"But, my Lord, the revenues of the Province of Egypt are known to all the world, and the demand of a fourth part of those revenues is a moderate demand. Your Highness will not henceforward have too great expences to incur; but even supposing

that anything should happen which should require great expences, your Highness can come to an undertanding thereupon with the Sublime Porte."

In the three or four interviews which I had with the Pasha, I tried to persuade him that it would be highly expedient that he should take the engagement in question, because he would thus have rendered service to the Imperial treasury, which would have been a subject of content for all the Ministers of the Sublime Porte; and I told him many things to the above effect. But far from listening to me, he repeated the same objections and insisted on them. I said again to him: "My Lord, I have ventured to importune you by telling you so many things for your own good and for that of your family; all this has had no result—Well then! let your Highness make known precisely your intentions and wishes to the Sublime Porte, and we will see what answer will arrive." "I am the servant and the slave of the Sultan our master; I will write the plain truth, to which I will add my entreaty; their Excellencies the Ministers of the Sublime Porte know what justice is."

As after all this anything which I might have said would have had no effect, I determined to hold my tongue and to break up the interview.

When we put forward the questions of dress, of the flags of vessels, the standards of the troops, and other regulations: "But, my friend," said the Pasha, "the uniforms of the troops of some Powers differ from each other. There are three sorts of uniform in the Russian troops. What harm is there in that? Each Power has its system and its regulations. This is not the place for discussing them."—"I will only say that since your Highness is one of the most illustrious Viziers of the Empire, since Egypt also is a portion of that Empire, and as your Highness is well aware it has become the custom, so to say, for the Viziers and inhabitants of Turkey to dress like the Ministers and Functionaries at Constantinople, it is essential that your Highness should adapt every one of your systems and of your regulations to those of the Sublime Porte."—"It is very well, my son; I, for my part, do not oppose myself thereto; I also am desirous of adopting the established uniform; but the people here are a little more difficult to deal with than those elsewhere. The change of dress is really one of those things which ought to be brought about by degrees; trust to me, and I will do the needful in due time; that is to say, I will cause every one to change his costume. As for the flag of the ships of war, it is exactly the same as that of the ships of the Imperial fleet; only the standards of the troops have hitherto been white; whenever patterns shall be sent from Constantinople, I will cause similar ones to be made."

I caused the Pasha to take the above engagements.

The Pasha said to me: "According to the same equitable principles upon which the new reforms are based, every one here is sure of his property and of his life; and all exert their care and attention to act accordingly upon these essential points. There is only the assessment of the taxes which cannot be adapted in a country like this to the system established by the reforms; because, together with the tenths, an annual tax is levied on the inhabitants known by the name of "Hradjiye," the amount of which in money depends upon the extent of land which each person possesses. "Hradjiye" is properly the rent of those lands; nothing more is taken under the head of taxes. These countries cannot in any way be assimilated to the countries of Roumelia. Suppose that it is wished to abolish the ancient system in order to substitute a new one in its place; well then, in that case, considering the singular character of the Arabs, the ancient system would be entirely disorganized, and that in the end would have caused disorder. Thus, let the Sublime Porte trust to the view I take for arranging such matters."

This is what the Pasha finished by saying to me.

I represented to the Pasha that His Highness wishes the First Regiment of the Line of the Imperial Marines, as well as the militia of the province of Broussa to be sent back entirely to Constantinople from whatever quarter they may be in. "These regiments had been sent into Syria. Up to this moment no portion of these troops is returned hither. It is to be supposed that some men from these regiments have become 'Cavasses,' and that the greatest part of the others are gone from Beyrout to Constantinople. The Colonel of the militia, Yadighiar Hassan Bey, is alone come into Egypt with Ibrahim Pasha. If hereafter any soldiers belonging to these regiments should arrive here, I will immediately send them to Constantinople in conformity to the sovereign pleasure."

According to the instructions which I had received, I used all my efforts, as God knows, to fulfil my mission conformably to the wishes of the Sublime Porte; but the Pasha, putting forward the inconveniences which exist, according to his views, respecting the fourth part of the revenues and the succession in his family, did not acquiesce in these points. It was with great difficulty I made him take the engagement to reduce his troops, to build no more ships without having obtained permission to do so, to coin money in the manner pointed out, and to do the other things as His Highness wishes. In speaking of his family I also said to him: "Your Highness wishes that the succession should, as an established condition, descend in the order of primogeniture; but there are inconveniences in this. And among others, the former Begler Bey of Tripoli in Barbary, Mustapha Pasha, son of Youssouf Pasha, not having been capable of governing, the country was a prey to disorders, and another Governor was at length named and sent by the Sublime Porte to Tripoli. Now Egypt is one of the most important provinces of the Empire. That being the case, and considering that what may happen in the course of time is not known, the Sublime Porte which thinks of everything, has considered the course which has been adopted to be expedient."—"Effendi, my son, you are right; but my children being men of information, men of sense, such an inconvenience is not to be feared."—"It is true, Highness, that your sons who now exist are sensible and judicious men; but in the course of generations, the Government of Egypt may devolve upon a man without judgment, and then, which God forbid, the province may be expected to be in disorder, disunion to exist in your family, and other evils to arise, which at this moment do not present themselves to the mind. History affords us a number of instances of such things having happened formerly. Perhaps your Highness even has been witness to similar events which nearly affect the Sublime Porte."—"This country belongs to the Sublime Porte. If the government of this country should fall into the hands of an incapable person, the Sublime Porte would know it, it would be informed thereof even from hence; and as it will not leave the country in disorder, there will be no kind of difficulty in its conferring the government of the province upon a worthy subject, and it has the right to do so."

This is what the Pasha ended by saying, in consequence of which I drew up, and divided into paragraphs the present report, which contains only a third part of my discussions with Mehemet Ali; I send it, together with a letter from his Highness to his Highness the Grand Vizier, and I shall await at Alexandria the reply of the Sublime Porte.

No. 217.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, April* 10, 1841.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 17th of March, inclosing copy of an Official Note addressed to you by Rechid Pasha on the previous day, requesting to be made acquainted with your Excellency's opinion as to the course to be pursued by the Porte, with reference to the answer given by Mehemet Ali to the Grand Vizier, respecting the firmans of the 13th of February, and containing an account of a discussion between your colleagues and yourself upon that subject.

I have to state to your Excellency in reply, that my former despatches and the Collective Notes of the Conference appear to me to afford sufficient elements to guide your Excellency in the advice which, either jointly with your Colleagues, or separately, if they should not be prepared to take any steps in the matter, your Excellency should give to the Porte. It is extremely important that the matters in dispute between the Sultan and Mehemet Ali should be settled as soon as possible; and it is the opinion of Her Majesty's Government that the objection stated by your Excellency in your despatch of the 17th ultimo, to any communication being made by the Sultan to Mehemet Ali, because such communication would have the appearance of negotiation, ought not to weigh against

the extreme urgency of coming to a final settlement; and it is obvious, that no such final settlement can be come to without such direct communication.

On some of the points of difference between the two parties, Mehemet Ali has reason on his side; on others Mehemet Ali is clearly and decidedly in the wrong. The Sultan ought, therefore, without delay to modify such parts of his firmans as are open to reasonable objections, and he should explain why the other parts cannot be altered without a departure from the terms of the Treaty of July, and from the opinions and advice of the Four Powers: and your Excellency should urge the Porte to do this without loss of time.

It is very possible that the report announced by the Internuncio to his colleagues, that the Conference had separated, and that the Alliance was dissolved, may have encouraged Mehemet Ali to make the unreasonable objections contained in his letter to the Grand Vizier, of which a copy was inclosed in your despatch of the 9th of March; but Mehemet Ali will since that time have learnt, that the Conference has not separated, and that the Alliance has not been dissolved: but that, on the contrary, the Four Powers remain steady to their purpose, and true to their engagements; and he will, therefore, probably be disposed again to revert to that state of submission to the Sultan, which he had at first professed, and of which he had given proof by the surrender of the Turkish fleet; but from which he was probably induced afterwards to swerve by the report, no doubt sent to him from Paris, that the Conference was about to separate.

A proposal to that effect was indeed made, and strongly urged by the Plenipotentiaries of Austria and Prussia at London, by orders of their Governments, and apparently in compliance with wishes expressed to those Governments by the Government of France, with a view to render it more easy for the French Government to enter into a fresh Convention with the Four Powers and with Turkey. But this proposal was positively and firmly rejected by Her Majesty's Government, on account of the very objection which subsequent events have shown to be well-founded; namely, that differences were likely to arise between Mehemet Ali and the Sultan as to the practical acceptance, by the former, of the conditions which the Four Powers had recommended the Sultan to attach to the grant of hereditary tenure; and that if Mehemet Ali were to find that the Four Powers had abandoned the Sultan at the eleventh hour, and before they had seen him fully through the difficulties out of which they had engaged themselves by Treaty to help him, Mehemet Ali would thereby be encouraged to retract his submission, and to start objections to those conditions; relying upon the infirmity of purpose which would thus have been shown by the Four Powers; and believing, as in such case he would justly have been entitled to do, that the Four Powers, after having expelled his troops from Syria, notwithstanding the displeasure of France, had at last shrunk from further encountering that displeasure, and had, in deference to the will of France, abandoned the enforcement of the conditions which they had themselves inserted in the Treaty, and which in their subsequent Notes they had declared to be indispensable.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON

No. 218.

Sir John Barrow to J. Backhouse, Esq.

Sir, *Admiralty, April* 14, 1841.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you, for the information of Viscount Palmerston, the inclosed copy of a letter from Admiral the Honourable Sir Robert Stopford, dated 30th March, 1841, inclosing copy of a statement from Lieutenant-General Jochmus respecting the strength of the Egyptian forces on leaving Damascus on the 29th of December last.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOHN BARROW.

Inclosure in No. 218.

Admiral Stopford to R. More O'Ferrall, Esq.

"Princess Charlotte,"
Sir, *Malta, March* 30, 1841.

I INCLOSE the copy of a statement by Lieutenant-General Jochmus from the returns of Mr. Werry, the British Consul at Damascus, of the strength of the Egyptian forces on leaving that place on the 29th of December last, appearing to be 54,713 men. The discrepancy in the various accounts is said by General Jochmus to arise from trains of attendants, mule-drivers, &c., who are all armed after the Eastern custom, being reckoned in one estimate and not another, and may amount to 8,000 men; but it is difficult to get at the exact truth in respect to numbers.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) ROBERT STOPFORD,
Admiral.

Sub-Inclosure 1 in No. 218.

General Return of the Egyptian Forces beginning the retreat from Damascus on the 29th December, 1840.

Damascus, February 27, 1841.

PERIODS. Vide General Return, dated at Jaffa, February 2, 1841.	Effective Combatants. Regular Army. Infantry and Artillery. Effective Officers. Rank and File.	Regular Army. Cavalry. Lances and Sabres.	Irregular Forces. Infantry. Rank and File.	Irregular Forces. Cavalry. Lances and Sabres.	Total Effective Combatants.	Non-combatant Military Administration. Military Servants. Invalids and Hospitals.	Grand Total of the Army in Syria.	Muleteers, Camel-Drivers, Civil Employés of Syria, their servants all armed and hence included in the Irregular Forces by Mr. Werry.	Total of Male Individuals leaving Damascus at the retreat on 29th December 1840.
September 10, 1840. Forces in Syria under Ibrahim Pasha.....	58,000	7,000	5,000	5,000	75,000	10,000	85,000		
Loss of troops up to the beginning of the Retreat.....	34,000	2,000	3,000	1,000	40,000	5,000	45,000		
Forces retreating from Damascus	24,000	5,000	2,000	4,000	35,000	5,000	40,000	8,000*	48,000
Same Forces according to Mr. Werry's Return made at Damascus	Infantry. 29,382 Artillery. § 4,832	‖	Albanian. 2,000	Hennedy ‡2,500 Others. 1,500	.. ..	4,138 not including military servants.	.. ..	†6,160	
	34,214	4,201	2,000 * *	4,000	44,415	4,138	48,553	6,160	¶ 54,713

* Vide General Return of February 2, 1841, where these classes are estimated at 8,000 men, who although armed, and on foot or horseback, do not constitute any irregular effective force. Mr. Werry has included them in the regular troops, under the denomination of Bachi-Bozuk horse and Arnaouts.

According to the same principle the number of women and children is about 8,000.

Mr. Werry makes it,—Wives of Non-commissioned Officers with children .	5,786
Add Wives and Female Attendants in Harems of the General and Field Officers	1,600
	7,386

† The difference of 1,840 men must be deducted from the amount of Mr. Werry's Regular Infantry, as many former soldiers were employed as muleteers and camel-drivers, the animals not having been hired, but driven away from the neighbouring devastated villages, from whence the peasantry had fled.

‡ The effective number of Hennedy Irregular Horse was not above 2,000.

§ Upwards of one half of these 4,832 men were lately drafted Infantry soldiers, the old Artillery having deserted in large proportions.

‖ Seven hundred dismounted Cavalry arrived at Gaza; it is very likely that a similar number of dismounted men left Damascus, where barley had been extremely scarce. Hence, also, a great number of guns were drawn by bullocks and cows.

¶ Difference of Rations issued 6,713.

This difference of 6,713 men will not appear extraordinary, if it is considered that Mr. Werry's return is made up from the ration return, pay lists, and other similar documents of the last days of December found in Damascus. The already then only half-organized infantry and artillery, naturally overdrew rations and such small portions of pay as was issued.

** Distribution of Irregular forces:—

Total of Mr. Werry's		11,640
Riflemen		520
		12,160
Returned above:—		
Albanians	2,000	
Hennedy and Bachi-Bozuk Cavalry	4,000	
Armed men on horse and foot accompanying the army and harems in note *, not actual soldiers	6,160	
		12,160

(Signed) J. F. HERMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Approved (Signed) A. JOCHMUS,
Lieutenant-General.

Sub-Inclosure 2 in No. 218.

Note en Arabe sur la Force de l'Armée d'Ibrahim Pacha, et des Personnes qui s'y trouvaient attachés lors de l'Evacuation du Damas, le 29 Décembre, 1840.

(Traduction.)

Nombre des Pachas.

Ibrahim Pacha, Général-en-Chef	1	
Solyman Pacha, Chef de l'Etat-Major, Major-Général de l'Armée	1	
Ahmed Pacha, Emir Miran	1	
Osman Pacha, Ditto	1	
Ahmed Pacha, Emir Miran de Cuirassiers	1	
Sélim Pacha, Emir Miran	1	
Kourchid Pacha, Ditto	1	
Houssein Pacha, Ditto	1	
Chérif Pacha, Ditto	1	
		9

Infanterie.

Généraux	4	
Colonels	11	
Lieutenant-Colonels	13	
Chefs de Bataillon	60	
Adjutants-Major	68	
Capitaines	438	
Lieutenants et Sous-Lieutenants	823	
Attachés aux Régimens (Médecins, Pharmaciens, et Musiques)	273	
Sous-Officers et Soldats	27,956	
		29,646

Infanterie Légère.

Chasseurs Tirailleurs		520

Cavalerie.

Généraux	3	
Colonels	6	
Lieutenant-Colonels	3	
Chefs d'Escadron	16	
Adjutants-Major	34	
Capitaines	93	
Lieutenants et Sous-Lieutenants	171	
Attachés aux Régimens (Médecins, Pharmaciens, et Musiques)	176	
Sous-Officiers et Cavaliers	3,699	
		4,201

Artillerie.

Généraux	2	
Colonels	3	
Lieutenant-Colonels	3	
Chefs de Bataillon	10	
Adjutants-Major	21	
Capitaines	73	
Lieutenants et Sous-Lieutenants	92	
Carried forward	204	34,376

Brought forward - - - - -	204	34,376
Attachés aux Régimens (Médecins, Pharmaciens, et Musiques) - - -	190	
Sous-Officiers et Artilleurs - - -	4,628	
		5,022

Soldats Irréguliers.

Bachi Bozuk Cavalerie - - - - -	4,000	
Hanadi - Ditto - - - - -	2,500	
Cavas - - Ditto - - - - -	250	
Arnaout Infanterie - - - - -	4,860	
		11,610

Invalides.

De toutes Armes - - - - - -	3,673
Total de Armée en Hommes - - -	54,681

Femmes et Enfans de l'Armée excepté les Femmes des Chefs.

Femmes - - - - - - - -	3,697		
Enfans sevrés - - - -	1,752	2,089	
Ditto laitant - - - - - -	337		
			5,786
Grand Total de l'Evacuation - -			60,467

(Translation.)

Note in Arabic of the Force of the Army of Ibrahim Pasha, and of the Persons who were attached to it at time of the evacuation of Damascus, December 29, 1840.

Number of Pashas.

Ibrahim Pasha, Commander-in-Chief -	1	
Solyman Pasha, Chief of the Staff-Major, Major-General of the Army - - -	1	
Ahmed Pasha, Emir Miran - - -	1	
Osman Pasha, Ditto - - - - -	1	
Ahmed Pasha, Emir Miran of the Cuirassiers	1	
Selim Pasha, Emir Miran - - -	1	
Kourchid Pasha, Ditto - - - -	1	
Houssein Pasha, Ditto - - - - -	1	
Cherif Pasha, Ditto - - - -	1	
		9

Infantry

Generals - - - - - - - -	4	
Colonels - - - - - - -	11	
Lieutenant-Colonels - - - -	13	
Chefs de Bataillon - - - -	60	
Adjutants-Major - - - - -	68	
Captains - - - - - - -	438	
Lieutenants and Sub-Lieutenants - -	823	
Attached to the Regiments (Doctors, Apothecaries and Musicians - -	273	
Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers	27,956	
		29,646

Light Infantry.

Riflemen - - - - - - -		520

Cavalry.

Generals - - - - - - -	3	
Colonels - - - - - - -	6	
Lieutenant-Colonels - - - -	3	
Chefs d'Escadron - - - - -	16	
Adjutants-Major - - - - -	34	
Captains - - - - - - -	93	
Lieutenants and Sub-Lieutenants - -	171	
Attached to the Regiments (Doctors, Apothecaries, and Musicians) - -	176	
Non-Commissioned Officers and Troopers -	3,699	
		4,201

Artillery.

Generals - - - - - - -	2	
Colonels - - - - - - - -	3	
Lieutenant-Colonels - - - -	3	
Chefs d'Bataillon - - - - - -	10	
Adjutants-Major - - - - -	21	
Captains - - - - - - - -	73	
Lieutenants and Sub-Lieutenants - -	92	
Attached to the Regiments (Doctors, Apothecaries, and Musicians - - - -	190	
Non-Commissioned Officers and Artillerymen	4,628	
		5,022

Irregular Soldiers.

Bachi Bozuk Cavalry - - - -	4,000	
Hanadi - Ditto - - -	2,500	
Cavas - Ditto - - - -	250	
Arnaout Infantry - - - -	4,860	
		11,610

Invalids.

Of all the Army - - - - - - -	3,673
Total of the Army in Men - - - -	54,681

Women and Children of the Army except the Women of the Chiefs.

Women - - - - - - -		3,697	
Weaned children - - -	1,752	2,089	
Childred not weaned - - -	337		
			5,786
Grand Total of the Evacuation - - -			60,467

No. 219.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received April* 17.)

My Lord, *Therapia, March* 27, 1841.

YOUR Lordship has received copy of Mehemet Ali's letter to the Grand Vizier, and been informed of the conduct I thought it my duty to adopt. I have now the honour to inclose copy of my reply to the Official Note I received from the Porte, which was transmitted to your Lordship in my despatch of the 17th instant.

Each of my Colleagues received a Note, identic with that to me, from the Porte, and they have been so good as to send me copies of their answers, which I inclose. They desired to have a copy of my reply, which was sent to them.

Your Lordship will see that I have strictly adhered to the spirit of your Instructions, and to the provisions of the Convention of 15th July, and the letter dated the 30th January from the Conference at London to Chekib Effendi.

Rechid Pasha has informed me, that the Council has decided that instructions shall be sent to Chekib Effendi to consult the British Government respecting the actual situation of the Egyptian Question, to the end that the Porte may act according to the advice of that Government.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 219.

Viscount Ponsonby to Rechid Pasha.

Monsieur le Ministre, *Therapia, March* 18, 1841.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's Note dated 16th of March, wherein reference is made to a letter received by the Sublime Porte from the Pasha of Egypt, and to a despatch written by his Excellency Said Muhib Effendi, copies of which have been communicated to me by order of the Sublime Porte.

Your Excellency says that the hesitation of Mehemet Ali to accept the conditions referred to in the above-mentioned papers, is in no wise compatible with the position of a subject, and that it is clear that it would be hurtful, and contrary to the sovereign right of the Sultan, to grant the demands of the Pasha; and your Excellency has been ordered by His Imperial Majesty the Sultan to ask me, what is my opinion as to the conduct the Sublime Porte should hold.

I beg to assure your Excellency that I am highly flattered by this mark of the confidence of the Sublime Porte, and that I will now, and upon all occasions, endeavour to merit it by sincerity.

My opinion coincides entirely with the opinion expressed by your Excellency; I think that submission on the part of Mehemet Ali to the authority of his Sovereign, His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, was and is the basis upon which the favours granted by the Sultan are all to rest, as the fundamental condition of their being accorded. It appears to me that the letter from the Pasha of Egypt to the Grand Vizier, does not bear the character of submission, though it contains certain phrases expressive of solicitation, in the same style as that which the Pasha has heretofore used in his letters written at the moment when he was openly in arms against his Sovereign; and the essence of this letter seems to be, refusal of the conditions imposed on him by the Sultan. I will not quote the various official documents, including the reply of the Conference of London to his Excellency Chekib Effendi, dated 30th of January, 1841, wherein the submission of Mehemet Ali has been recognized by all the Allies, as the foundation upon which is to rest the clemency and the

favours His Imperial Majesty may be pleased to extend to that Pasha nor do I think it necessary here to cite the instructions I have received from my Government on that point, because they have already been made fully known to the Sublime Porte; but I refer to those documents as the guides by which I am directed, and the authority by which I am governed.

If submission be the basis, as above said, I am of opinion that it is at least very questionable, if it be possible, in the present case, for the Sublime Porte to negotiate with Mehemet Ali without infringing on the principle of Sovereignty in the Sultan. The firman is an order. No subject can refuse to obey an order, and be said to be submissive to the Sovereign. A subject may petition his Sovereign to change or to revoke an order. Has Mehemet Ali petitioned for alteration, or has he expressed his will to disobey the order? The latter seems to be the fact; and what we learn of the continued preparations making by the Pasha to strengthen his military means, corroborates the notion that he refuses to obey.

The Sublime Porte being intimately connected by the strongest ties with the Government I have the honour to serve, I think it my duty to recommend, that in a matter of so much importance as that at present in question, and respecting which there may be doubts, the Sublime Porte should ask the opinion of its faithful friend and Ally; and that the Sublime Porte should remain entirely inactive as respects the Pasha of Egypt's letter to the Grand Vizier, until the Sublime Porte shall have had confidential communication with the British Government.

I venture to offer this opinion in conformity with the expressed desire of the Sublime Porte that I should state an opinion, and because I cannot foresee that the mode of acting I recommend can be productive of the least inconvenience to the Sublime Porte. It appears to me that no evil of any sort for the Sublime Porte can attend upon delay. The Sublime Porte must naturally increase its internal strength during the period of delay. The Sublime Porte is, at this moment, stronger, I believe, than Mehemet Ali. I think he will not risk any offensive act, and that if he were to risk any such act his destruction might be the consequence.

The Porte is pleased to attach high value to its friendly relations with its Allies, and they can only be fortified by every additional evidence of the confidence which the Sublime Porte reposes in them. The Sublime Porte will not limit its power of free and independent action by asking the opinion of a friend, but it will obtain the sure knowledge of the feelings of that friend, and the advantage such knowledge will afford for the subsequent arrangement of its own plans.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 219.

Baron de Stürmer to Rechid Pasha.

Constantinople, 18 *Mars*, 1841.

J'AI reçu hier la note que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'adresser, par ordre de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, pour me demander mon avis sur la ligne de conduite que la Sublime Porte devra suivre en conséquence du refus du Pacha d'Egypte de se soumettre à quelques unes des conditions qui lui ont été imposées.

Tout en appréciant, comme je le dois, une si flatteuse preuve de confiance, ou plutôt par cela même que j'en sens toute la valeur, je ne saurais prendre sur moi d'y répondre en mon propre nom, et dès hier j'ai transmis cette note à mon auguste Cour, en la priant de me prescrire les conseils que je devrais donner à la Sublime Porte dans cette conjoncture délicate.

Si toutefois, sans préjuger en rien ses intentions, j'osais en attendant me permettre d'énoncer ici quelques idées qui me sont personnelles, je

dirai que parmi les Actes de la Conférence de Londres, qui nous ont servi de guide jusqu'ici, il en est un (la note à Chékib Effendi du 30 Janvier) qui nous fait connaître la manière dans laquelle les Puissances Alliées de la Sublime Porte auraient désiré voir établir l'hérédité que le Sultan a daigné accorder à Méhémet Ali. Arrivé ici tardivement, c'est-à-dire long-tems après l'expédition du firman d'investiture, cet Acte n'a pu avoir son effet. Néanmoins, il pourrait, ce me semble, déterminer la Sublime Porte, même encore maintenant, non pas à changer ses premières résolutions, ce qui serait contraire à sa dignité, mais à chercher quelque moyen d'accéder aux prières de Méhémet Ali, en satisfaisant, en même tems, au vœu des Puissances Alliées, qui n'est autre que de régler, dans l'intérêt du maintien de la paix Européenne, le mode de succession en Egypte, de manière à écarter pour l'avenir tout sujet de contestation.

Pour ce qui est des autres conditions dont Méhémet Ali réclame la modification, elles ont été, et doivent être, l'expression pure et simple de la volonté Souveraine du Sultan; et les Alliés de Sa Majesté Impériale penseront sans doute qu'à elle seule appartient le droit de décider jusqu'à quel point elle peut y condescendre.

Veuillez agréer, &c.,
(Signé) STURMER.

(Translation.)

Constantinople, March 18, 1841.

I RECEIVED yesterday the Note which your Excellency did me the honour to address to me, by order of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, in order to ask my opinion as to the line of conduct which the Sublime Porte ought to follow in consequence of the refusal of the Pasha of Egypt to submit to some of the conditions which have been imposed upon him.

At the same time that I appreciate as I ought to do, so flattering a proof of confidence, or rather for the very reason that I am sensible of all its value, I could not take upon myself to reply to it in my own name, and even yesterday I transmitted that note to my August Court, requesting it to prescribe to me the advice which I ought to give the Sublime Porte in this delicate conjuncture of affairs.

If, however, without in any way prejudging its intentions, I might venture in the meanwhile to allow myself to express at present some notions which are personal to myself, I would say that among the Acts of the Conference of London, which have hitherto guided us, there is one (the Note to Chekib Effendi of the 30th of January) which acquaints us with the manner in which the Powers, Allies of the Sublime Porte, would have wished to see the hereditary succession which the Sultan has been pleased to grant to Mehemet Ali, settled. That Act, which arrived here at a late period, that is to say, long after the despatch of the Firman of investiture, could not take effect. Nevertheless it might, as it appears to me, determine the Sublime Porte, even still at the present moment, not to change its first resolutions, which would be contrary to its dignity, but to seek some means of acceding to the entreaties of Mehemet Ali, at the same time that it complied with the wish of the Allied Powers, which is no other than to settle, with a view to the maintenance of the peace of Europe, the mode of succession in Egypt, in such a manner as to obviate for the future all matter of dispute.

With regard to the other conditions which Mehemet Ali requests may be modified, they have been, and ought to be, the pure and simple expression of the Sovereign will of the Sultan; and the Allies of His Imperial Majesty will doubtless be of opinion that to him alone belongs the right of deciding to what extent he can comply.

Be pleased to receive, &c.,
(Signed) STURMER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 219.

Count Königsmarck to Rechid Pasha.

Buyukdéré, ce 17 *Mars*, 1841.

LE Soussigné, Ministre de Prusse près la Sublime Porte Ottomane, a eu l'honneur de recevoir la Note que son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères a bien voulu lui adresser en date du 14 de ce mois (21 Moharrem), pour demander, d'ordre de Sa Majesté le Sultan, son avis sur le parti à prendre par la Sublime Porte, en conséquence des représentations de Méhémet Ali Pacha, relativement à plusieurs des dispositions Souveraines contenues dans le firman d'investiture héréditaire du Gouvernement de l'Egypte.

Plus le Soussigné se trouve honoré de cette marque de confiance, plus il regrette de n'être pas autorisé à offrir à ce sujet des conseils. Il va s'empresser de porter la susdite Note à la connaissance de son auguste Cour, et d'en demander les instructions.

Le Soussigné, &c.,
(Signé) KŒNIGSMARCK.

(Translation.)

Buyukdéré, March 17, 1841.

THE Undersigned, Minister of Prussia at the Sublime Ottoman Porte, has had the honour to receive the Note which his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs had the goodness to address to him on the 14th of this month (21 Moharrem) to ask, by order of His Majesty the Sultan, his opinion as to the course to be taken by the Sublime Porte, in consequence of the representations of Mehemet Ali Pasha, relative to many of the sovereign dispositions contained in the firman of hereditary investiture of the Government of Egypt.

The more the Undersigned feels honoured by this mark of confidence, the more does he regret that he is not authorized to offer advice on this subject. He will hasten to bring the above-mentioned Note to the knowledge of his august Court, and to ask instructions from it.

The Undersigned, &c.,
(Signed) KŒNIGSMARCK.

Inclosure 4 in No. 219.

M. Titow to Rechid Pasha.

$\frac{7}{19}$ *Mars*, 1841.

J'AI eu l'honneur de recevoir la Note Officielle que votre Excellence m'a adressée le 21 Moharrem ($\frac{3}{15}$ Février), pour m'inviter à énoncer un avis sur la ligne de conduite à tenir par la Sublime Porte, vu l'hésitation du Pacha d'Egypte à remplir quelques unes des conditions tracées dans le firman que Saïd Muhib Effendi s'est trouvé chargé de lui remettre.

Le désir spontané que votre Excellence m'exprime au nom de Sa Hautesse ne saurait être à mes yeux qu'un nouvel et précieux témoignage de la sincère union de nos deux augustes Souverains, et de la confiance que le Sultan met à juste titre dans les dispositions et les conseils des Cours signataires de l'alliance du 15 Juillet, 1840.

L'objet de cette alliance conservatrice a été de maintenir, sous les auspices de Sa Hautesse, l'intégrité de la Turquie, en ramenant la paix dans l'Orient. Afin d'accélérer cet heureux résultat, le Cabinet Impérial s'est joint au Gouvernement Britannique et aux autres Cours Alliées pour offrir à la Sublime Porte les conseils exposés dans les instructions à M. l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre du 15 Octobre et dans le Mémorandum signé à Londres le 14 Novembre.

Ces conseils, dont j'ai été appelé à m'acquitter ici, de concert avec mes Collègues, et que les Représentans Alliés à Londres ont encore mieux développés dans la Note Collective du 30 Janvier dernier à Chékib Effendi, portaient entr'autres, qu'en accordant à Méhémet Ali l'investiture héréditaire du Pachalic d'Egypte, la Sublime Porte ferait bien de lui tracer les conditions restrictives établies par la Convention du 15 Juillet.

Le dispositif et les détails des conditions à prescrire sur une pareille base au Pacha d'Egypte appartenaient de leur nature au domaine exclusif et intérieur de la Sublime Porte. Les explications qui en résultent, et les questions administratives qui s'y rattachent, me sembleraient donc, je l'avoue, trop délicates en elles-mêmes pour admettre, sans autorisation expresse, ma co-opération dans une matière qui, entre les données locales qu'exigerait son examen approfondi, touche de si près à l'exercice de ce pouvoir Souverain et indépendant que les augustes amis de Sa Hautesse sont toujours les premiers à reconnaître et à respecter.

Je craindrais ainsi, M. le Ministre, d'outrepasser les attributions qui me sont assignées comme organe diplomatique de Sa Majesté l'Empereur, si je prenais sur moi de répondre à l'appel, d'ailleurs si amical, de la Sublime Porte, autrement qu'en assurant votre Excellence de l'empressement que je mettrai à en référer à ma Cour et à demander ses ordres.

Veuillez donc, M. le Ministre, croire au zèle que j'apporterai à m'acquitter sans délai de ce devoir, et agréez, en même tems, l'assurance de ma haute considération.

Je saisis, &c.,
(Signé) TITOW.

(Translation.)

March $\frac{7}{19}$, 1841.

I HAVE had the honour to receive the official note which your Excellency addressed to me on the 21st of Moharrem ($\frac{3}{15}$ February), to request me to express an opinion on the line of conduct to be observed by the Porte, with reference to the hesitation of the Pasha of Egypt to fulfil some of the conditions laid down in the firman which Said Muhib Effendi was commissioned to deliver to him.

The spontaneous desire which your Excellency expresses to me in the name of His Highness, cannot but be in my estimation, a fresh and precious evidence of the sincere union of our two august Sovereigns, and of the confidence which the Sultan places in the dispositions and the advice of the Courts, parties to the alliance of the 15th of July, 1840.

The object of this conservative alliance has been to maintain under the auspices of His Highness, the integrity of Turkey, by re-establishing peace in the East. In order to accelerate this happy result, the Imperial Cabinet, united with the British Government and the other Allied Courts, to offer to the Sublime Porte the advice set forth in the instructions to the Ambassador of England of the 15th of October, and in the Memorandum signed at London on the 14th of November.

This advice, which I have been called upon here to offer, in concert with my colleagues, and which the Allied Representatives in London have still better explained in the Collective Note to Chekib Effendi of the 30th of January last, purported, among other matters, that, in granting to Mehemet Ali the hereditary investiture of the Pashalic of Egypt, the Sublime Porte would do well to impose upon him the restrictions established by the Convention of the 15th of July.

The enactment and the details of the conditions to be prescribed on such a basis to the Pasha, appertained from their nature to the exclusive and internal jurisdiction of the Sublime Porte. The explanations resulting therefrom, and the questions of administration which attach thereto, would then, I confess, appear to me, too delicate in themselves, to admit of my co-operation without express authority, in a matter which, among the local data which its thorough investigation would require, bears so directly upon that sovereign and independent power which the august Allies of His Highness have always been the first to recognize and to respect.

Thus, Sir, I should fear to exceed the attributes which are so assigned to me as the diplomatic agent of His Majesty the Emperor, if I took upon myself to respond to the very friendly appeal of the Sublime Porte, otherwise than by assuring your Excellency of the alacrity with which I shall refer the matter to my Court and request its instructions.

Be pleased then, Sir, to believe in the zeal with which I shall execute that duty without delay, and accept at the same time the assurance of my high consideration.

I avail myself, &c.,
(Signed) TITOW.

No. 220.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 17.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, March 27, 1841.*

I FORWARD extract from a letter communicated to me by Baron de Stürmer; the contents I believe to be a true statement of facts, for they correspond with what I have heard from other sources.

If anything were wanting to show the resistance of Mehemet Ali to the orders of the Sultan, and his defiance of the opinion of the Allies, there would be enough found in this extract to satisfy everybody on that point, and in the other undeniable accounts of his warlike preparations, notwithstanding his promises of submission to the authority of the Sublime Porte.

Inclosure in No. 220.

Extraits des Lettres d'Egypte parvenues à M. Laurin.

DES lettres particulières d'Alexandrie du 16, et du Caire du 14 Mars, portent que Méhémet Ali Pacha réunissait journellement les différens Divans de la Capitale, qui s'occupaient exclusivement de l'organisation des Colonies Militaires, et d'une Armée Mobile. Il doit avoir donné les ordres nécessaires pour remonter le matériel, tout-à-fait dégradé, que les troupes retournées de la Syrie ont ramené. Ibrahim Pacha s'étant chargé de l'exécution de ses ordres, Méhémet Ali quitta le Caire le 13 à midi, et arriva à Alexandrie le 15 à 9 heures du matin.

L'armée de Syrie arrive au Caire, petit à petit, par le Désert de Suez, par celui d'El-Arish, et par la voie de mer par Damiette. Ibrahim Pacha prétend, qu'au bout de trois mois tous ces débris seront réorganisés, et que bientôt il pourra présenter aux ennemis de son père une armée de 60,000 hommes.

Les nouvelles que Méhémet Ali a reçues par le bateau à vapeur, arrivé de France le 14, ne l'ont pas satisfait. En outre, le Gérant du Consulat de France, M. le Comte de Chabot, arrivé le 15 par un bateau à vapeur du Gouvernement Français, doit l'avoir assuré que la France admettra comme un fait accompli, et tout-à-fait étranger à sa politique, l'arrangement qu'il a fait avec la Porte, au sujet de l'administration héréditaire du Pachalic d'Egypte.

Ibrahim Pacha est toujours souffrant. Il ne peut supporter la moindre fatigue. Son père, voulant le ménager, s'était rendu auprès de lui pour traiter des affaires ayant trait à l'organisation et à l'administration de l'armée, dont il vient d'être chargé. Son médecin prétend que la maladie de foie, dont il est atteint, devra finir par une hydropisie, dont les symptômes se sont déjà manifestés.

Méhémet Ali doit avoir déclaré au Caire, que si l'on voudra s'entendre avec lui sur le mode de succession, il sera prêt à prélever le quart sur les impôts au bénéfice du Sultan, mais qu'il ne voudrait avoir ni contrôle, ni contrôleur, soit pour la perception des impôts, soit pour les dépenses.

Du reste, Méhémet Ali continuant les armemens, et forçant les contribuables à payer les impôts par anticipation, le mécontentement est toujours le même; le commerce craint de nouvelles entraves; et les propriétaires ne savent à quoi s'en tenir à l'égard des monopoles que le nouveau Traité de Commerce abolit, et que Méhémet Ali fait mine de vouloir maintenir comme par le passé.

(Translation.)

PRIVATE letters from Alexandria of the 6th and from Cairo of the 14th of March, state that Mehemet Ali Pasha was every day convening the different divans of the capital, who were occupied exclusively with the organization of the military colonies, and of a moveable army. He is said to have given the necessary orders for re-equipping the field-equipage, altogether disorganized, which the troops, returned from Syria, have brought back with them.

Ibrahim Pasha having undertaken to execute his orders, Mehemet Ali left Cairo on the 13th at noon, and arrived at Alexandria on the 15th, at 9 in the morning.

The army of Syria arrives at Cairo in small detachments, by the Desert of Suez, by that of El-Arish, and by sea through Damietta. Ibrahim Pasha gives out that at the end of three months all these remains will be reorganized, and that he will soon be able to oppose to the enemies of his father an army of 60,000 men.

The news which Mehemet Ali received by the steam-vessel which arrived on the 14th from France, have not satisfied him. Moreover, the Count de Chabot, entrusted with the business of the French Consulate, who arrived here on the 15th in a French Government steam-vessel, has, it is stated, confidentially assured him that France will admit as a settled matter, and as altogether alien from her policy, the arrangement which he has made with the Porte on the subject of the hereditary administration of the Pashalic of Egypt.

Ibrahim Pasha continues unwell. He cannot undergo the slightest fatigue. His father, in order to spare him, went to him to discuss the matters relating to the organization and administration of the army which is entrusted to him. His physician gives out that the complaint in the liver by which he is affected must end in dropsy, the symptoms of which have already shown themselves.

Mehemet Ali is said to have declared at Cairo, that if there shall be a disposition to come to an understanding with him as to the mode of succession, he will be prepared to deduct for the benefit of the Sultan the fourth part of the taxes, but he would have neither control, nor controller, either with regard to the levying of duties, or with regard to disbursements.

Furthermore, as Mehemet continues the armaments, and forces those who are liable to pay taxes to do so before the same are due, the discontent is still the same: commercial people apprehend new obstructions; and the holders of property know not what to do with respect to the monopolies which the new Treaty of Commerce does away with, and which Mehemet Ali manifests a disposition to maintain as heretofore.

No. 221.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received April* 17.)

My Lord, *Therapia, March* 29, 1841.

RECHID PASHA and Ahmed Fethi Pasha are removed from office. Rifat Bey has been made Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Tahir Pasha, Capudan Pasha; Said Pasha, late Capudan Pasha, succeeds Ahmed Fethi Pasha in the post of Minister of Commerce. These changes were published this morning.

I think the news so important that I despatch the messenger without waiting for the notification from the Porte of the adoption of the decision of the Council upon the affair of Mehemet Ali. I have no reason to doubt of that decision being approved of by the Sultan.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 222.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received April* 17.)

My Lord, *Vienna, April* 9, 1841.

ON the 31st of March last I announced to your Lordship the attitude which the Court of Austria was on the point of taking in the Turco-Egyptian Question. The instructions enjoining that attitude were sent to Baron Stürmer two days later, and afterwards to Prince Esterhazy for communication to your Lordship. The decision, however, of the Austrian Cabinet is of so much importance, that having obtained a copy of Prince Metternich's despatch in which it is conveyed, I inclose it to your Lordship. Prince Metternich therein declares, that if the Divan does not adopt the modifications to the firman of investiture recommended by the Conference of London, His Imperial Majesty will consider himself released from the obligations he had contracted by the Treaty of July. I have no doubt but what it is the intention of this Cabinet to act up to this declaration, in which course it will assuredly be followed by that of Prussia.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) BEAUVALE.

Inclosure in No. 222.

Prince Metternich to Baron de Stürmer.

Vienne, le 2 *Avril,* 1841.

J'AI reçu le 29 vos rapports du 17 Mars. Leur contenu a fixé notre attention la plus sérieuse, parcequ'il constate l'existence d'une position sans précédens dans les fastes de la diplomatie. Ce fait ressort des considérations suivantes.

Quand les grandes Cours Européennes se décidèrent à intervenir dans le conflit entre la Porte et Méhémet Ali, elles eurent soin d'établir un centre d'entente, et elles firent choix à cet effet de la capitale de la Grande Bretagne. Elles revêtirent leurs organes dans ce point d'union de la qualité de Plénipotentiaires, et invitèrent la Porte à envoyer de son côté un Plénipotentiaire à Londres. C'est dans ce centre que furent arrêtés la Convention et les autres Actes du 15 Juillet, 1840; et c'est de ce même point qu'émanèrent les instructions adressées, le 14 Novembre et le 17 Décembre, aux Représentans des Cours respectives à Constantinople, la Note Collective du 30 Janvier dernier, ainsi que les instructions aux Amiraux durant tout le cours des opérations actives.

Outre ce foyer de délibération et de décision, il a tout naturellement dû exister des points, où l'on a adressé les directions, et où par conséquent devait s'exercer l'action tant morale que matérielle. Ces points étaient ceux de Constantinople et d'Alexandrie à l'égard de l'action morale, et la Syrie pour ce qui concernait l'action matérielle. Il est évident que, suivant l'ordre hiérarchique, c'est du centre de Londres qu'ont dû émaner les ordres, et que la tâche des autres points était d'exécuter ces ordres. Tout ce qui tendait à intervertir cette règle, a dû exposer la cause à des dangers ; et aujourd'hui encore toute marche qui s'en écarte, ne saurait que créer de graves compromissions pour la Porte et pour les Cours ses Alliées.

Les rapports de votre Excellence du 17 Mars ne renferment que trop de preuves, que les affaires ne sont point placées dans les voies qu'il serait si nécessaire de leur voir suivre. Quelle suite, par exemple, a-t-il été donnée aux prescriptions si précises de la Note Collective du 30 Janvier ? Quel compte le Divan et les organes des Quatre Cours ont-ils tenu des opinions que cette pièce exprimait ? Nous voyons d'un côté la Porte indécise sur le parti qu'elle aura à prendre au sujet des représentations faites par Méhémet Ali contre quelques Articles du firman d'investiture, et de l'autre, les Représentans des Quatre Cours ne pas savoir prendre conseil des paroles si claires de la Note Collective mentionnée ci-dessus. En vérité, M. le Baron, c'est à n'y rien comprendre, tandisque ce qui saute aux yeux, c'est le mal qu'un état de choses pareil fait à l'intérêt bien entendu de la Porte, et les graves compromissions auxquelles il expose jusqu'à l'honneur même des Quatre Puissances. Aussi l'Empereur notre Auguste Maître n'entend-il pas rester dans une position pareille, et c'est parceque telle est la détermination bien arrêtée de Sa Majesté Impériale, que je vous transmets les directions suivantes, dont vous aurez soin de ne point dévier.

Le dernier courier Anglais et l'expédition que je vous ai adressée le 26 Mars dernier, ont répondu d'avance et à fond aux scrupules de tout genre qui peuvent avoir influé sur la marche des organes des Quatre Cours, jusqu'à la date de vos rapports du 17 Mars. Il est à présumer, que dans l'intervalle qui s'est écoulé entre cette date et l'arrivée des expéditions susdites de Londres et de Vienne, les choses seront demeurées *in statu quo* à Constantinople. Ayant réclamé des ordres de leurs Cours respectives, vous et MM. vos collègues serez, à vue de pays, restés en suspens. Quel parti prendrez-vous lorsque vous serez en possession des dernières directions du centre de Londres ? Je ne saurais pas le préjuger, mais je crois pouvoir me flatter, que vous aurez uniformément senti la nécessité de regarder ces directions comme préjugeant d'avance les ordres que chacun d'entre vous a réclamés de sa Cour, et que dès-lors vous n'aurez point tardé à donner au Divan des conseils conformes aux vues des Quatre Puissances. Si tel devait être le cas, l'affaire approchera de sa fin avant l'arrivée du présent courier.

Cependant, comme dans le cours de l'affaire nous avons déjà été exposés plus d'une fois à nous voir déçus dans notre attente, voici la ligne de conduite que je vous trace pour le cas où les dernières directions du centre de Londres auraient éprouvé le même sort que les précédentes.

Vous inviterez MM. vos Collègues de Grande Bretagne, de Prusse, et de Russie à une réunion, et vous leur ferez connaître :

Que l'Empereur notre Auguste Maître, décidé pour sa part à se maintenir dans les limites des arrêtés pris en commun par les Plénipotentiaires des Quatre Cours dans le centre de Londres, vous ordonne d'insister près du Divan sur l'admission des modifications que ces mêmes Cours désirent voir apporter, dans l'intérêt même de la Porte, à certains Articles du Firman d'investiture du Pacha d'Egypte ;

Qu'en vertu de cette décision vous êtes chargé d'inviter MM. vos Collègues à se réunir avec vous dans une démarche commune à faire dans ce sens envers la Porte ; Que dans le cas où cette union n'aurait point lieu, vous êtes chargé de faire envers le Divan la démarche en question, soit seul, soit avec ceux de MM. vos Collègues qui se joindront a vous ;

Qu'en vous acquittant envers le Divan des conseils conformes aux arrêtés pris dans le centre de Londres, et dans le cas du refus de Sa

Hautesse d'obtempérer aux vœux de ses Alliés, vous aurez à déclarer à la Porte, que Sa Hautesse étant maîtresse de ses décisions, Sa Majesté Impériale par contre regarderait, pour sa part, comme épuisée, la tâche dont elle s'était chargée par les engagemens qu'elle a contractés le 15 Juillet, 1840, et qu'elle se considérera dès-lors comme rendue à une entière liberté de position et d'action.

Recevez, &c.,
(Signé) METTERNICH.

(Translation.)

Vienna, April 2, 1841.

I RECEIVED on the 29th, your reports of the 17th of March. Their contents have attracted our most serious attention, because they prove the existence of a position without precedent in the annals of diplomacy. This fact results from the following considerations.

When the Great Powers of Europe decided upon interposing in the conflict between the Porte and Mehemet Ali, they took care to establish a central place of deliberation; and they selected for that purpose the capital of Great Britain. They invested their organs at this point of union with the character of Plenipotentiaries, and invited the Porte on its part to send a Plenipotentiary to London. In this central point the Convention and the other Acts of the 15th of July, 1840, were determined upon; and from the same point proceeded the instructions addressed on the 14th of November, and the 17th of December, to the Representatives of the respective Courts at Constantinople, the Collective Note of the 30th of January last, and likewise the instructions to the Admirals during the whole course of the active operations.

Besides this point of deliberation and of decision, there were naturally other points to which directions were addressed, and where consequently moral as well as material action was to be called into play. These points were Constantinople and Alexandria with respect to moral action, and Syria in as much as material action was concerned. It is evident that, according to strict order, instructions were to emanate from the central point of London, and that the duty at the other points was, to carry those instructions into execution. Everything that had a tendency to invert this rule, necessarily exposed the cause to danger; and even still at the present time, every step which deviates from it, cannot fail seriously to compromise both the Porte and the Courts its Allies.

Your Excellency's reports of the 17th of March furnish but too many proofs that matters are not placed in the channel which it was so necessary to see them follow. What, for example, has been the result of the very precise instructions of the Collective Note of the 30th of January? What attention have the Divan and the Agents of the Four Courts paid to the opinions expressed in that document? On the one hand we see the Porte undecided as to the course which it will have to take on the subject of the representations made by Mehemet Ali against certain Articles of the firman of investiture, and on the other, the Representatives of the Four Powers, ignorant how to take counsel from the very clear words of the Collective Note above-mentioned. In truth, M. le Baron, it is impossible to make it out, while what is evident, is the evil which such a state of things occasions to the interests well understood of the Porte, and the serious manner in which it compromises even the very honour of the Four Powers. Wherefore the Emperor our august master has no intention of remaining in such a position, and it is because such is the fixed determination of His Imperial Majesty that I transmit to you the following directions, from which you will be careful not to depart.

The last English messenger, and the instructions which I addressed to you on the 26th of March last, have replied by anticipation and entirely to the scruples of all kinds which may have had an influence on the proceedings of the organs of the Four Courts up to the date of your reports of the 17th March. It is to be presumed that in the interval which

elapsed between that date and the arrival of the aforesaid instructions from London and from Vienna, matters will have remained stationary at Constantinople. You and your colleagues, having applied for the orders of your respective Courts, will, under those circumstances, have remained inactive. What course will you take when you shall be in possession of the last instructions from the centre of London? I cannot determine that beforehand, but I think I may flatter myself that you will have uniformly felt the necessity of considering these instructions to have anticipated the orders which each of you has applied for to his Court, and that thereupon you will not have delayed offering to the Divan advice in conformity with the views of the Four Powers. If that should be the case, the affair will be drawing to its close before the arrival of the present courier.

Nevertheless, as in the course of this affair we have already been exposed more than once to see ourselves deceived in our expectations, this is the line of conduct which I prescribe to you, in the event of the last directions of the centre of London having experienced the same fate as those which preceded them.

You will invite your Colleagues of Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia, to a conference, and you will acquaint them:

That the Emperor our august master, being, for his part, resolved to keep himself within the bounds of the decisions taken in common by the Plenipotentiaries of the Four Courts in the centre of London, enjoins you to insist upon the Divan admitting the modifications which those same Courts desire, for the interest even of the Porte, to see introduced into certain Articles of the firman of investiture of the Pasha of Egypt;

That, in pursuance of this resolution, you are directed to invite your Colleagues to join you in a common step to be taken at the Porte to this effect;—That in case such union could not be effected, you are directed to take the step in question towards the Divan, either alone, or with those of your Colleagues who will join you;

That in offering to the Divan advice in conformity with the decisions adopted in the centre of London, and in case the Sultan should refuse to listen to the wishes of his Allies, you will have to declare to the Porte that, the Sultan being the master of his own resolutions, His Imperial Majesty, on the other hand, would, for his part, consider accomplished, the task which he had, by the engagements contracted on the 15th of July, undertaken to perform, and that he will thenceforward consider himself as restored to entire liberty of position and action.

(Signed) METTERNICH.

No. 223.

The Marquess of Clanricarde to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 19.)

(Extract.) *St. Petersburgh, April 6*, 1841.

YOUR Lordship's despatches, to the 16th of March, were delivered to me on the 29th ultimo by the messenger Fricker.

The latest despatches that Count Nesselrode has received from Constantinople, give an account of the consultations and conduct of the Representatives of the Four Allied Powers, upon the communication to them of Mehemet Ali's reply to the Firmans sent to him, and of Said Muhib Effendi's report, and upon the report that had reached them from Vienna, of the Conference of London having been brought to a close.

I have communicated to his Excellency the instructions conveyed in your Lordship's despatch to Lord Ponsonby, of the 16th of March, and Count Nesselrode highly approves of them. He says they point out the mode in which the Porte may put an end to the difficulties which the Firmans sent to Alexandria have created, without derogation to the Sultan's authority, or offence to his dignity.

No. 224.

Lord William Russell to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 19.)

(Extract.) *Berlin, April* 14, 1841.

BARON WERTHER told me in the course of conversation, that the Prussian Minister in London having initialed the Eastern Convention, the Government looked upon the Treaty of July as terminated.

No. 225.

Mr. Bulwer to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 19.)

My Lord, *Paris, April* 16, 1841.

YOUR Lordship will probably have observed the discussion on the supplementary budget, and the various efforts which were made to draw from M. Guizot any imprudent revelations as to the recent Convention between France and the Great Powers, Parties to the Treaty of the 15th of July. Your Lordship will also very probably have noticed the caution displayed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs on this occasion; a caution not diminished by the declaration, that he hoped soon to be able to announce that "the armed peace" with which the session had commenced, had been exchanged for one of a more regular and tranquillizing nature. But the passages in this debate (Wednesday) to which I particularly wish to draw your Lordship's attention, are two declarations of M. Thiers. The first (made by accepting the observation of some foreign Minister), that France aspired to, and at the time of his Ministry was about to arrive at, the possession of the whole coast of Africa, and that this domination was to be extended by an alliance with the Pasha of Egypt, from the extreme of the Mediterranean up to the Red Sea. The second, that Arabia and Syria were merely causes of weakness and expense to Mehemet Ali, and consequently no losses to him, but that his being deprived of them was a serious loss to France, because she had thereby commanded the Euphrates and the Persian Gulf.

When I remember that the French Government in general, and M. Thiers in particular, always protested that France had no sort of interest in the Pasha extending his sway over Syria, and that their whole objection to driving him therefrom was the difficulty of the enterprise, I own that I am somewhat startled by the present disclosure. At the same time, I think it will give Her Majesty's Government increased reason to congratulate themselves on the policy they have pursued.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) HENRY L. BULWER.

No. 226.

Mr. Bulwer to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 19.)

My Lord, *Paris, April* 16, 1841.

IT having come to my knowledge that some Members of the French Government had observed, that at the same time that they withdrew from all share in the proceedings between the Sultan and Mehemet Ali, they, in fact, afforded a protection to the latter by refusing to sign any common Act with the other Great European Powers, until the affairs of the East were brought to a conclusion, inasmuch as they thereby disposed those Powers to settle the pending question promptly by concessions to the Pasha of Egypt; I thought it advisable to represent to M. Guizot the great inconveniences that might arise, if the Pasha should construe this

delay or reluctance on the part of the French Government into a support of all his pretensions, many of which seem to be too extravagant to be seriously discussed: and I asked M. Guizot whether, under such circumstances, it might not be advisable to sign the recent Convention with respect to the Bosphorus at once, and by thereby depriving Mehemet of the support with which he might delude himself, bring the whole matter at once and promptly to a termination.

M. Guizot replied to me by saying, that he did not mean to assert that the refusal of the French Government to sign the Convention in question, until Mehemet Ali and the Sultan had come to terms, might not afford a certain protection to the former; but, said he, "I have taken care that Mehemet Ali should know that this protection is limited, and that I by no means approve of all his pretensions; on the contrary, indeed, I agree with you that many are exaggerated and absurd; and I have urged him peremptorily to abandon them. My notion, however, I tell you frankly, is, that if these affairs are to be settled speedily, as I wish them, and as you think they ought to be, this can only be effected by your Government pressing the Porte on one side, and my pressing Mehemet Ali on the other. But were all the signatures affixed to the recent Convention, neither your Government nor mine would have the same motives for urgency. The remaining affair then would be left in the hands of the parties themselves, who would protract the negotiation *ad infinitum;* and thus, after having accomplished all the forms by which the business should be terminated, it would remain in a year hence, just where it is now."

"But," said I, "supposing you will only sign the Convention recently agreed to between yourself and the other Great Powers, when that between Mehemet and the Porte is concluded, and that Mehemet insists upon all the conditions which he has asked for, many of which you yourself consider unreasonable, will you not be allowing the exaggeration and intemperance of another to direct your own policy from that which is desirable and just?" "I have observed to you," M. Guizot replied, "that my consideration for Mehemet Ali has its bounds. I have told him he must abandon much that he pretends to. I believe he will do so. If he does not, then certainly I shall abandon him."

"Of course," I observed, "you consider his pretension not to pay any tribute for two or three years as out of the question?" "Certainly." "You think he should be bound by the Treaties of the Porte with Foreign Powers?" "Most assuredly." "You deem it proper that the Hatti-Sheriff of Gulhané should be the law in Egypt as in the rest of the Ottoman Empire?" "I do. In short," M. Guizot continued, "there are but three points on which the Pasha has any reason to insist:

"1st. The grant of the hereditary succession in the direct male line of his family.

"2nd. The payment of a fixed tribute, instead of what is called the fourth of the revenue of the province he governs;—a valuation which could never be fairly made, which would occasion all sorts of trouble, and introduce, if it is meant that the object demanded should be really obtained, a double set of revenue officers, and consequently a double expenditure in the collection of the taxes, as well as never ceasing disputes as to their amount.

"3rd. I think the restriction on his appointment of officers, confining him to the rank of Captain, a hardship and an inconvenience which would render the army, for whose discipline and conduct he is responsible, almost free from his control."

I suggested that this last was practically a minor question, to which M. Guizot rather assented, and seemed to think that it might be possibly settled by Mehemet's presenting the superior officers to the Sultan for approbation, as he would thus have a certain share in their promotion by his recommendation, though the act itself would proceed from the Sultan, and form a natural part of his supreme power.

He then added, "I have thus talked with you on all these matters, because, the subject having been started, I was desirous that you should know my real opinions, and not suppose that I, directly or indirectly,

sustain the Pasha in his unreasonable demands; but I do not pretend to take, on the contrary I most cautiously abstain from taking, any share in the arrangement which may be brought about: I do not wish to be mixed up in it, or to appear in any way in it. I have no conditions to make for Mehemet Ali; I have nothing to do with him or the conditions he may accept. I only say, that until the affairs in the East shall have been settled, I cannot sign a document which begins by declaring that they are so; and besides, I know well enough my parliamentary position, and that I could not so act, even if I were inclined."

I have, &c.,
(Signed) HENRY L. BULWER.

No. 227.

Colonel Hodges to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 17.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, March* 30, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 2nd of March, instructing me to return to Alexandria whenever the Austrian, Prussian, and Russian Consuls-General are ready to do so.

I have just returned from seeing the Representatives of Austria and Russia, who have acquainted me, that from recent communications from their Courts they do not consider themselves authorised to direct the return of the Consuls-General of those Powers until they receive further instructions on this head, which they expect to have in a few days.

As for myself, I am ready to proceed to Alexandria at an hour's notice.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) G. LLOYD HODGES.

No. 228.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Bulwer.

Sir, *Foreign Office, April* 20, 1841.

YOUR despatches to the 16th of April have been received and laid before the Queen.

Her Majesty's Government approve of the language which you have held in conversation with M. Guizot upon the affairs of the Levant, as reported in your despatch of the 16th instant.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 229.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord William Russell.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, April* 21, 1841.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 14th of April, and with reference to that part in which you report that Baron Werther had stated to you that the Prussian Government look upon the Treaty of July as terminated, I have to instruct your Lordship to state to Baron Werther that a question cannot be really finished merely by saying that it is so; and Prussia having by the Treaty of July taken towards the Sultan and the other three Powers an engagement to determine Mehemet Ali to accept the arrangement specified in that Treaty, Her Majesty's Government are persuaded that Prussia will keep that engagement. But it appears by

Mehemet Ali's last letter to the Grand Vizier, that, at the date of that letter, he objected to some of the fundamental points of the arrangement specified in the Treaty of July.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 230.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, April* 21, 1841.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Vienna, inclosing a copy of an instruction given by Prince Metternich to the Internuncio on the 2nd of April, directing him, if necessary, to declare to the Porte, that if the Divan will not adopt the modifications in the firman of the 13th of February, recommended by the Conference of London, His Imperial Majesty will consider himself released from the obligations he contracted by the Treaty of July.

I have to acquaint your Excellency, that Her Majesty's Government entirely concur in the view of this matter taken by the Austrian Government, and are prepared to take the same course.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 231.

Mr. Bulwer to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 22.)

My Lord, *Paris, April* 19, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to observe that Count Appony has informed me, that he had a conversation with M. Guizot on the subject to which my despatch of the 16th instant refers, and that that Minister repeated to him almost *verbatim* what he had previously stated to myself.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) HENRY L. BULWER.

No. 232.

Mr. Bulwer to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 25.)

(Extract.) *Paris, April* 23, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that M. Guizot was obliging enough to put into my hands a despatch dated the 30th, which he had received from M. de Pontois, and which stated the recent changes that had taken place in the Government at Constantinople. This change is described as having been long meditated by a powerful party, though its immediate cause was a trivial dispute on some commercial matter between the Grand Vizier and the Minister of Commerce, who has been just displaced; and its success is attributed to the influence of persons opposed to the recent reforms, and also to the difficulties which Rechid Pasha made to admitting those modifications in the Hatti-Sheriff, which seemed to be desired by the Great Powers, as necessary to a definitive settlement between the Sultan and the Pasha of Egypt.

No. 233.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received April* 23.)

My Lord, *Vienna, April* 13, 1841.

THE present courier bears an instruction to Chekib Effendi, by which the Porte expresses its readiness to modify the firman of investiture to the extent of securing the succession to Ibrahim Pasha, or to such other of Mehemet Ali's sons as he shall designate, reserving at the same time the choice in all subsequent cases to the Sultan, upon the recommendation of the principal persons of the country. This appears to me the worst mode that has yet been hit upon, as it would expose Egypt to a perpetual native and foreign canvass, in which the principal Powers of Europe would take part. It would transfer to that country in another shape all the evils under which Poland fell. The Porte, however, having conceded thus far, it is to be hoped that the united expression of the sentiments of the Four Powers will obtain the rest.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) BEAUVALE.

No. 234.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received April* 23.)

My Lord, *Vienna, April* 14, 1841.

I HAVE communicated to Prince Metternich your Lordship's despatch of the 2nd of April, addressed to myself. With the principles and reasonings of that despatch the Prince entirely agrees. He draws, however, a marked distinction as to the relative importance of the objects therein treated. He considers the Four Powers pledged to use their best endeavours with the Sultan to obtain from him the concession of hereditary succession in favour of the descendants of Mehemet Ali, either according to the European rule of primogeniture, or the Eastern one of seniority, under the conditions already repeatedly expressed; but this having been obtained, he considers the remaining matters in dispute between the Sultan and the Pasha as relating merely to administrative affairs, in which the Powers will interfere by counsel for the advantage of both parties, but wherein the advice they may tender will be regulated by circumstances and by the fuller information they may gradually acquire, leaving to them a great latitude of deliberation, and binding them to no specific course of action.

With regard to the tribute, Prince Metternich fully adopts your Lordship's reasonings, and will doubtless assist in obtaining for the Sultan the arrears which Mehemet Ali shows a disposition to withhold, and in fixing the amount of tribute at a reasonable sum. Whether a fourth of the gross revenue be a reasonable amount or no, he cannot determine, but he is of opinion that an approach to the knowledge of the amount of net revenue under the new system imposed upon Mehemet Ali is the only basis upon which the proposition of tribute can be justly determined. As a preliminary to this, it is evident that the system of imposts must be previously fixed, and if the calculation is to be made upon these data, it will probably require the employment of Commissioners named for that purpose, before the question can be finally settled. Whenever the principle upon which the tribute is to be determined has been agreed upon, the Prince is of opinion that it will be much for the interest of the Porte to commute the estimated produce for a fixed sum, instead of receiving a proportion of the revenue,—a system which would expose it to constant fraud and uncertainty.

With these additions, your Lordship may consider the views expressed by you in the despatch in question, as having received Prince Metternich's full assent.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) BEAUVALE.

No. 235.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received April* 23.)

My Lord, *Vienna, April* 14, 1841.

I HAVE communicated to Prince Metternich your Lordship's instructions to Lord Ponsonby conveyed in your despatch to that Ambassador of the 2d of April. The Prince entirely agrees with them, and has sent a corresponding instruction to the Internuncio.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) BEAUVALE.

No. 236.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received April* 23.)

(Extract.) *Vienna, April* 14, 1841.

PRINCE METTERNICH has received intelligence of the arrival of the Druse Chiefs from Egypt at Beyrout. The French Consul there immediately sent them word that they owed their liberation to the intervention of France, and prepared a sort of triumphal entry for them, headed by his cavasses.

The Turkish force in that country is stated by these advices to amount to 30,000 men.

No. 237.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received April* 25.)

My Lord, *Therapia, April* 6, 1841.

THIS day I have received your Lordship's despatch, containing draft of a Protocol of a Conference between the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain, Austria, Prussia, Russia, and the Sublime Porte, and a draft of a Convention between Great Britain, Austria, France, Prussia, and Russia, on the one part, and the Sublime Porte on the other part, which have been provisionally agreed to by the respective Plenipotentiaries, and which Her Majesty's Government hope will soon be signed by those Plenipotentiaries.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 238.

Chekib Effendi to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received April* 28.)

27 *Avril*, 1841.

L'EXECUTION pleine et entière du Firman Impérial par lequel le Sultan a daigné réintégrer Méhémet Ali dans le Gouvernement de l'Egypte, en accordant, en même tems, la faveur de l'hérédité pour ses descendans, ayant éprouvé quelques difficultés, Sa Hautesse n'a cru faire mieux que de faire un nouvel appel au concours de ses Alliés pour les applanir. En conséquence elle a chargé le Soussigné, Ambassadeur de la Sublime Porte près Sa Majesté Britannique, de soumettre à son Excellence Lord Palmerston, ainsi qu'aux Représentans des Cours Alliées, les points qui ont motivés ces difficultés, et de présenter en même tems à Lord Palmerston la décision que Sa Hautesse vient de faire à ce sujet dans l'intérêt de son empire. Pleine de la confiance dans la bonne intention de ses Alliés en sa faveur, Sa Hautesse espère qu'ils voudront bien réaliser sa décision.

Le Soussigné s'empresse de remettre à son Excellence Lord Palmerston, d'après l'ordre de Sa Hautesse, la copie des instructions qu'il a reçues à cet égard du Gouvernement de Sa Hautesse, et comptant sur tant de preuves de bienveillance que son Excellence et MM. les Représentans ont montrées pour la cause du Sultan, il ose réclamer leur aide et leur assistance, en les priant de trouver un moyen de résoudre, d'une manière conforme à la décision de Sa Hautesse, les difficultés qui ont arrêté jusqu'ici l'arrangement définitif de la Question Egyptienne.

Le Soussigné saisit, etc.,

(Signé) CHEKIB.

(Translation.)

April 27, 1841.

THE full and entire execution of the Imperial Firman, by which the Sultan has been pleased to reinstate Mehemet Ali in the Government of Egypt, granting at the same time the favour of hereditary succession for his descendants, having encountered some difficulties, His Highness has considered that he could not do better than make a fresh appeal to the concurrence of his Allies, in order to smooth them away. Accordingly, he has directed the Undersigned, Ambassador of the Sublime Porte to Her Britannic Majesty, to submit to his Excellency Lord Palmerston, as well as to the Representatives of the Allied Courts, the points which have occasioned these difficulties, and at the same time to lay before Lord Palmerston the decision now adopted by His Highness on this matter with reference to the interest of his Empire. Full of confidence in the good intentions of the Allies towards him, His Highness trusts that they will be pleased to give effect to his decision.

The Undersigned hastens to deliver to his Excellency Lord Palmerston, in obedience to the orders of the Sultan, a copy of the instructions which he has received on this point from His Highness's Government, and reckoning upon the numerous proofs of good-will which his Excellency and the Representatives have manifested for the cause of the Sultan, he ventures to request their aid and assistance, begging them to find means of solving, in a manner consistent with His Highness's decision, the difficulties which have hitherto prevented the definitive settlement of the Egyptian Question.

The Undersigned, &c.,

(Signed) CHEKIB.

Inclosure in No. 238.

Instructions transmitted by the Sublime Porte to Chekib Effendi.
(Received from Chekib Effendi privately April 25.)

(Traduction.) 8 Safar, 1257 / 1 Avril, 1841.

VOTRE Excellence n'ignore pas que le très-honorable Saïd Muhib Effendi a été dernièrement envoyé en Egypte pour apporter à son Excellence Méhémet Ali la bonne nouvelle de la faveur signalée que Sa Hautesse a daigné lui accorder, pour lui remettre le firman Impérial, contenant certaines conditions indispensables, et pour concerter avec lui plusieurs points nécessaires.

Ayant envoyé à votre Excellence des copies du dit firman Impérial, des dépêches, et d'autres pièces qui ont été écrites à ce sujet, nous devons admettre qu'elles lui sont parvenues à l'heure qu'il est, et qu'elle sera ainsi informée de la résolution souveraine et des principes réglementaires qui ont été établis. Votre Excellence verra de même à quel point se trouve actuellement la Question d'Egypte par la lecture des rapports que nous avons reçus récemment de la part de Méhémet Ali, de Saïd Muhib Effendi, et dont nous avons eu également soin de vous transmettre des copies.

Le dit Pacha a refusé d'accepter quelques unes des conditions susmentionnées, procédé que nous trouvons inconvénant, puisqu'il était convenu qu'il prouverait sa prétendue soumission d'une manière non conditionnelle.

Comme donc la Question Egyptienne a été dans tout son cours traitée et réglée de concert et d'accord avec les augustes Cours Alliées, et avec leur assentiment expressément demandé, et comme par conséquent la nature même de l'affaire exige que les points encore en suspens soient également résolus et arrangés d'un commun accord avec les dites Cours, nous avons consulté MM. les quatre Représentans résidant dans cette capitale, en demandant leur avis sur la manière dont la Sublime Porte devait agir dans cette circonstance.

Ils nous ont répondu que la non-acceptation par Méhémet Ali des dits Articles réglementaires n'ayant pas été prévue, ils n'avaient pas pu recevoir là-dessus de nouvelles instructions de leurs Gouvernemens respectifs, et que dès-lors ils ne pouvaient soumettre aucun conseil à Sa Hautesse le Sultan; par conséquent la question a été méditée et discutée entre les Ministres de la Sublime Porte, et il a été décidé qu'on écrirait à votre Excellence dans le sens suivant.

Un des points que Méhémet Ali refuse d'accepter est celui de l'hérédité, qui, selon lui, devrait être réglé d'après le seignoriat. Mais si par la suite un de ses fils majeurs devait être incapable de conduire l'administration du pays, et que le Gouvernement de l'Egypte dût passer comme héritage entre ses mains, l'ordre dans cette province en serait nécessairement troublé. Or, la Sublime Porte ayant à cœur la bonne administration de l'Egypte, tout autant que celle des autres provinces de l'Empire, voulant en outre prévenir tout inconvénient que cette Question pourrait faire naître plus tard, et accorder en même tems au dit Pacha une nouvelle marque de faveur et de bienveillance, elle promet dès-à-présent de conférer le Gouvernement de l'Egypte à Ibrahim Pacha ou à tel autre de ses fils que Méhémet Ali lui-même choisirait de son vivant, à condition qu'ensuite le droit d'élection appartiendra de nouveau à Sa Hautesse.

Comme seconde alternative, nous proposons ce qui suit: le Pacha nous ayant représenté que le véritable caractère et la capacité personnelle de l'individu qui deviendra ensuite Gouverneur de l'Egypte ne pourront pas être connus ici, tandis que là on pourra très-bien les apprécier, un de ses descendans devra être choisi en Egypte par les membres de sa famille, et par les notables du pays, et proposé à la Sublime Porte; il sera confirmé et nommé par Sa Hautesse le Sultan.

Pour ce qui concerne les lois civiles et militaires, ce point constitue une des principales stipulations du Traité d'Alliance.

Comme donc les Cours Alliées auront évidemment la bonté d'en faire adopter le principe et les détails, il ne devra pas être question de le modifier, ni de le changer.

La manière de la perception de l'impôt étant sur le point d'être réglée et arrangée ici, les lois et réglemens de la Sublime Porte, tant présens qu'à venir, devant, ainsi qu'il a été établi, être entièrement exécutés en Egypte, les principes qu'on adoptera ici au sujet de la perception de l'impôt, seront aussi observés en Egypte. Bref, il faudra ne pas sortir du cercle des stipulations fondamentales du Traité.

Méhémet Ali Pacha a trouvé exagérée la demande du quart de l'impôt. Mais eu égard à la situation de l'Egypte et à son véritable revenu, ce chiffre est proportionné aux ressources du pays, de sorte que votre Excellence devra employer tous ses efforts pour que ce quart nous soit payé, conformément à la première décision. Le revenu du Pacha s'élève au-delà de 600,000 bourses. Si toutefois à présent l'abolition des monopoles et la cessation de certains procédés vexatoires diminueraient le revenu d'environ 200,000 bourses, il en resterait encore 400,000 bourses.

Par le passé, le Pacha entretenait une armée de 80,000 à 100,000 hommes, tandis qu'à présent il n'en aura que 18,000 à 20,000 hommes, ce qui le débarrasse des frais occasionnés par 60,000 à 80,000 hommes de troupes. Les sommes qu'il dépensait jusqu'ici en fourniture pour le Hedjas seront dorénavant payées par le Sultan. En outre, ce quart ne se rapporte pas à tous les produits de l'Egypte, ainsi que le Pacha l'a compris et écrit: il s'applique seulement aux droits de Douane et à toutes les autres recettes de la Province.

Puisque donc, d'après ce qui précède, il est nécessaire que ce quart soit perçu en entier, il faudrait tâcher d'obtenir l'assentiment des Puissances.

Le changement à opérer dans les uniformes des troupes régulières de l'Egypte ; la mutation, le désenrôlement de ces mêmes troupes, auxquelles doit être appliquer uniformément le réglement établi pour toutes les troupes régulières de Sa Hautesse; enfin, les promotions militaires qui devront avoir lieu d'après les principes suivis par les autres Gouverneurs ; sont des objets d'une haute importance, sur lesquels il faut insister. C'est donc seulement pour le changement des uniformes qu'on donne un court délai.

Quant à la loi de conscription et aux promotions militaires, on devra tâcher d'obtenir l'assentiment des Puissances.

Les divers points qui précèdent, ayant été soumis à la sanction de Sa Hautesse, elle a daigné ordonner que l'on procédât en effet de la manière proposée. Il faut donc, pour ce qui concerne ces questions, recourir au Gouvernement Britannique par l'entremise de votre Excellence, et aux trois autres Gouvernemens par celle de leurs Légations respectives, connaître avant tout leur manière de penser, et agir ensuite en conséquence.

Des copies de la présente dépêche ont été remises aussi aux Représentans des dites Puissances, en leur communiquant en même tems l'état des choses actuelles.

Votre Excellence aura donc, de la manière susmentionnée, à employer tous ses efforts pour obtenir l'assentiment des Cours à ce sujet, et pour faire par là preuve de sagesse, d'habilité, et de savoir faire.

En outre, comme le très-honorable Saïd Muhib Effendi a dû, pour le moment, prolonger un peu son séjour en Egypte, votre Excellence voudra bien, le plus tôt possible, faire connaître à la Sublime Porte les communications officielles que le Gouvernement Britannique sera dans le cas de lui faire au sujet des points susmentionnés, ainsi que les nouvelles marques d'intérêt et de bienveillance qu'il nous donnera à cette occasion.

C'est à cet effet que nous adressons la présente.

(Translation.)

8 Safar, 1257
April 1, 1841.

YOUR Excellency is aware that the most honourable Said Muhib Effendi was recently sent to Egypt to convey to his Excellency Mehemet Ali the good news of the signal favour which his Highness has been pleased to grant to him to deliver to him the Imperial Firman containing certain indispensable conditions, and to concert with him several necessary points.

Having sent to your Excellency copies of the said Imperial Firman, of the despatches, and of the other documents which have been written on this subject, we must conclude that they have reached you at the present time, and that you will thus be informed of the sovereign resolution, and of the principles of regulation which have been settled. Your Excellency will likewise see the present state of the Egyptian Question, by a perusal of the reports which we have lately received from Mehemet Ali, from Said Muhib Effendi, and of which we have likewise taken care to forward to you copies.

The said Pasha has refused to accept some of the conditions above-mentioned, a proceeding which we consider unsuitable, since it was agreed that he should prove unconditionally his pretended submission.

Since then the Egyptian Question has, in its whole course, been treated and settled in concert and in concurrence with the august Allied Courts, and with their assent expressly applied for, and as consequently the very nature of the business requires that the points still in suspense should in like manner be solved and settled by common agreement with the said Courts, we have consulted the four Representatives residing in this Capital, and asked their opinion as to the manner in which the Sublime Porte should, under these circumstances, act.

They have told us in reply, that as the non-acceptation by Mehemet Ali of the said Articles of regulation, had not been anticipated, they had not been able to receive fresh instructions from their respective Governments thereupon; and that they could not, therefore, offer any advice to the Sublime Porte: the question has consequently been considered and discussed by the Ministers of the Sublime Porte, and it has been decided that your Excellency should be written to to the following effect.

One of the points which Mehemet Ali refuses to accept is, that of the hereditary succession, which, according to him, should be settled by seniority. But if hereafter one of his elder children should be incapable of carrying on the government of the country, and the Government of Egypt must pass as an inheritance into his hands, order would, as a necessary consequence thereof, be disturbed in that province. Now the Sublime Porte having at heart the good government of Egypt, as much as that of the other provinces of the Empire, being moreover desirous to guard against all inconvenience which this question might hereafter give rise to, and at the same time to grant to the said Pasha a new mark of favour and benevolence, it promises even now to confer the Government of Egypt on Ibrahim Pasha, or on such other of his sons as Mehemet Ali should himself select during his life-time, on condition that afterwards the right of election should again belong to the Sultan.

As a second alternative we propose as follows: the Pasha having represented to us that the real character and personal capacity of the individual who shall hereafter become Governor of Egypt, cannot be known here, whereas they may be very well appreciated there, one of his descendants shall be chosen in Egypt by the members of his family, and by the chief people of the country, and proposed to the Sublime Porte; he shall be confirmed and nominated by His Highness the Sultan.

As regards the civil and military laws, that point forms one of the principal stipulations of the Treaty of Alliance.

Since then the Allied Courts will evidently have the goodness to cause its principle and its details to be adopted, there must be no question of modifying it, or of changing it.

The manner of collecting the duties being on the point of being settled and arranged here, the laws and regulations of the Sublime Porte, now and hereafter, being, as has been settled, to be entirely carried into execution in Egypt, the principles which shall be adopted here respecting the collection of duties, shall also be observed in Egypt. In short, the fundamental stipulations of the Treaty must not be departed from.

Mehemet Ali Pasha has considered the demand of the fourth part of the duties to be excessive. But with reference to the situation of Egypt and to its real revenue, this sum is in proportion to the resources of the country, so that your Excellency will have to employ all your efforts, in order that this fourth part may be paid to us in conformity with the first

decision. The revenue of the Pasha amounts to more than 600,000 purses. If, however, at the present time the abolition of the monopolies and the cessation of certain vexatious proceedings, should diminish the revenue about 200,000 purses, there would still remain 400,000 purses.

Heretofore, the Pasha maintained an army of 80,000 to 100,000 men, whereas at present he will only have 18,000 to 20,000 men, which relieves him from the expenses caused by 60,000 to 80,000 troops. The sums which he hitherto expended in remittances to the Hedjaz will hereafter be paid by the Sultan. Moreover, this fourth part does not bear upon all the produce of Egypt, as the Pasha has understood and written: it applies only to the customs-duties and to all the other receipts of the province.

Since then, from what precedes, it is necessary that the whole of this fourth part should be received, the assent of the Powers must be endeavoured to be obtained.

The change to be effected in the uniforms of the regular troops of Egypt; the relief, the disbanding of these same troops, to whom the regulation laid down for all the regular troops of His Highness must be uniformly applied; lastly, the military promotions which must take place according to the principles observed by other Governors; are objects of high importance which must be insisted upon. It is only then with regard to the change of uniform that a short delay can be granted.

With regard to the law of conscription and to the military promotions, the assent of the Powers must be attempted to be obtained.

The various points above stated having been submitted to the sanction of His Highness, he has been pleased to direct that we should in effect proceed in the manner proposed. It is necessary then, as regards these questions, to have recourse to the British Government through your Excellency, and to the three other Governments through their respective Missions, to become in the first instance acquainted with their opinions, and then to act accordingly.

Copies of this despatch have been delivered also to the Representatives of the said Powers, at the same time that the existing state of affairs has been made known to them.

Your Excellency will therefore, as has been said above, have to use all your efforts to obtain the assent of the Courts on this matter, and evince thereby your sagacity, skill, and ability.

Moreover, as the most honourable Said Muhib Effendi has necessarily, for the time, prolonged a little his stay in Egypt, your Excellency will have the goodness as soon as possible to make the Sublime Porte acquainted with the official communications which the British Government shall make to you on the points above mentioned, as likewise with the fresh tokens of interest and benevolence which it shall afford us on this occasion.

It is for this purpose that we address to you the present despatch.

No. 239.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received April* 30.)

My Lord, *Therapia, April* 7, 1841.

THE inclosed information from Egypt coming from a person extremely well acquainted with what is passing in that country, I have sent it home, though I doubt not it will appear in the newspapers.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure in No. 239.

Intelligence from Egypt.

Alexandria, March 26, 1841.

DURING Mehemet Ali's stay at Cairo, and since his departure from thence, there have been continual council-meetings, under the direction of Ibrahim and Sheriff Pashas, to patch up the financial, agricultural, and military affairs of this most disorderly Government.

In regard of the latter, it is confidently asserted, that in February, 1840, the whole military force of Mehemet Ali, without reckoning the Turkish or the Egyptian Navy, amounted to 221,000 men, including irregulars.

Defection and death have reduced that body to 100,000 at most. The new organization is as follows:—

In Egypt.

Infantry of the Line, 13 Regiments, each 3 Battalions of 1,200 men and officers		46,800
Ditto Foot Guards, 2 Regiments Ditto		7,200
Cavalry of the Line, 7 Regiments of 6 Squadrons each, 680 men and officers		4,760
Cavalry, Guards—		
1 Regiment Cuirassiers	480	
1 Regiment Lancers	480	
		1,360
Artillery, Foot—		
Two Regiments, each 24 batteries, of 6 guns and 16 men, guns, 288		4,608
Artillery, Horse—		
One Ditto, of 6 batteries, guns 6, and 16 men, guns 36		576
Regulars, men		65,304

Among which are many Syrians of all denominations.

Candia.

1 Regiment of Infantry of the Line	3,600
Sennaar.	
3 Regiments of the Line	10,200
Regulars, Total	79,104
To which may be added "Baltagis," Veterans, "Sukal Hales;" those totally unfit for service having been sent to their villages, (without pension or reward,) there remain probably	6,000
Irregulars from Syria—Bashi Bozuks, Arnauts, Naplousians, Horse and Foot, as well as some few of the tribes Galas, Rosceyles, Fedahan, Lamoor, and Waled Ali, say	5,000
Irregulars—Egyptians, Mogrebins of Waled Ali, and other tribes (of which there are 30,000 mounted men on the western deserts of Egypt,) in actual service say	5,000
In the western deserts of Egypt, Howara, Henedi, Cavat, Orta, &c. &c.	5,000
Men	100,104
Egyptian Fleet, Arsenal	15,000
Disposable Force, say	115,104

This is the show they make on paper. The Syrians, of course, would not fight; the irregulars would cut and run. Of the Egyptians, after the first check, none would stand to their colours, but to a man would go over to the enemy, when certain of the Sultan's success and assured of a kind reception.

As an instance of the *esprit de corps* prevailing in the Pasha's service, when they lately discharged the Sukal Hales from the ranks, and sent the poor wretches to their villages to shift as best as they may, without recompense for suffering, or provision for premature old age, all who even thus left the army went on their way rejoicing and objects of envy to their less fortunate companions.

To insure their future services, and reward the attachment of the officers of the regiments which returned from Syria in skeleton, the Pasha has cut off one year's pay, to cover the losses of *matériel* unavoidably encountered in a retreat which can only find a parallel in that from Moscow.

The European instructors were last week gratified with an oration that was delivered to them by the Minister of War at Cairo, commendatory of their services, and those among them whose regiments had disappeared (and they were not few) received appointments in the new organization.

The cavalry are now at grass recruiting their horses. Their chief stations are in the Bahera, Menoufieh, and Sherkieyeh Provinces, besides detachments at Cairo, Benisoueff and Fayoum.

The infantry are principally stationed between Cairo and Damietta, and Cairo and Alexandria. Every day brings in new levies from the country, volunteers chained like galley-slaves! The main depôt is at Cairo. The fortifications at Damietta are continued without the slightest relaxation, and the Rédif are frequently exercised. So much for the submission to the Porte and reduction of the army to 18,000 men! while the late creation of a new French Bey, in the person of the gentleman who was sent out by M. Thiers to render Alexandria a second St. Jean d'Acre, serves as a commentary on the Sultan's late interdict to the nomination of any officer of higher rank than lieutenant!

The "Ferdé" is levying for the year just began (1257), but, withal, under such a system of mystification that no one can well comprehend what is doing, since though it is an undoubted fact, that some have actually paid, the Government people deny it, pretending that it is not for the year 1257, but to make up the arrears of the last five years! That is to say, each place with a given population having been valued at a given sum per annum, and this sum, according to the hocus-pocus system of the finances administration, having, it is said, fallen short through the absence, death, or poverty of some, they are now compelling those who can pay to make up for the default over and above their own share. In this manner it is expected the coffers of His Highness are to be replenished, without in the least violating the Sultan's firman, a thing no longer to be thought of by a faithful vassal. The result of the whole, however, is, as usual in Egypt, that people are made to pay.

No. 240.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 30.)

My Lord, *Therapia, April 7*, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of an extract of a letter lately received from Cairo, containing information of what is taking place there.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure in No. 240.

Extract of a letter from Cairo containing intelligence of what is taking place in Egypt.

ADESSO si riorganizza una nuova armata di 60 mila uomini, e diversi reggimenti d'Infanteria e Cavalleria ricevettero di già l'ordine di recarsi nel' Basso Egitto. Anche gl'istruttori Medici e Farmacisti Europei furono lasciati in attività di servizio.

Pare che della nostra cittadella abbino il progetto di formare una piazza forte, e che le amministrazioni scenderanno nella città.

Si voleva riscuotere il Ferdé del 1257, ma per ora venne sospesa l'esecuzione, limitandosi ad incassare i soldi dell'anno scorso.

Frattanto, sono all'incanto diversi appalti, come quella della sena, cuojo, &c., &c. L'appalto dei vini e spiriti continua come per lo passato, e si vendono perfino alla publica subasta 6 giraffe venute dal Sennaar per conto del' Governo Egiziano.

E verissimo che l'Egitto appartiene all'Impero Ottomano, però Mehemet Ali vi commanda despoticamente.

Anche quì abbiamo dei giornalieri attachi di peste, e la mortalità totale si raggira dai 50 à 60 a'lgiorno, sopra i quali si deve contare 15 à 20 di peste; cio nonostante nessuna precauzione sanitaria abbiamo fin quì preso, mentre si spera che il miasma non avrà forza per obbligarci ad una rinserra.

Cairo, li 19 *Marzo*, 1841.

(Translation.)

A fresh army of sixty thousand men is now raising, and several regiments of foot and horse have already been ordered to march into Lower Egypt. Even the medical instructors and European pharmacists have been called into active service.

It appears that our citadel is about to be fortified, and that the administrations are to fix their residence in it.

There was an intention of collecting the "Ferdé" of 1257, but this has been suspended for the present, and only the balances of last year are in the course of exaction.

Meanwhile the different contracts have been put up at auction, such as that of senna, leather, &c., &c. Wine and spirits continue to be farmed out as heretofore, and even the six Giraffes that arrived from Sennaar for account of the Egyptian Government have been put up at auction.

Egypt, doubtless, belongs to the Ottoman Empire, but Mehemet Ali commands there despotically.

Here, too, we daily experience attacks of the plague, and the total of deaths ranges from fifty to sixty every day, among which from fifteen to twenty must be ascribed to the plague. No sanitary precaution has, for all that, hitherto been taken, since it is hoped that the miasma will not be violent enough to compel us to shut ourselves up from all communication.

Cairo, March 19, 1841.

No. 241.

Mr. Bulwer to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 3.)

My Lord, *Paris, April* 30, 1841.

IN a few words interchanged between M. Guizot and myself this morning, I thought I perceived a disposition to sign the Additional Treaty at once, providing the advice given to the Porte included what he M. Guizot) considered the reasonable demands of Mehemet Ali.

"I will not," he said, "rest assured, submit the conduct of the French Government to the caprice or pretensions of the Pasha of Egypt; but I must have a moral conviction that the Porte will make him such offers as he ought to accept, before I can consider the affair terminated."

I have, &c.,
(Signed) HENRY L. BULWER.

No. 242.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 3.)

My Lord, *Vienna, April* 22, 1841.

HAVING succeeded in seeing Prince Metternich immediately after the arrival of the messenger Johnson, I was enabled to forward to Lord Ponsonby by the same messenger the Prince's remarks upon your Lordship's despatch to that Ambassador of April 10. I inclose copy of my despatch to Lord Ponsonby, and your Lordship will perceive from it, as well as from my despatch of April 14, that the engagement to offer Egypt hereditarily to Mehemet Ali's family being once fairly acted upon, Prince Metternich will be found ready to co-operate fully with your Lordship upon all subordinate details. This opinion is borne out by his despatch to the Internuncio, whereof he has had the goodness to furnish me with a copy, which I inclose to your Lordship.

The knot of this affair lies in the acceptance by the Porte of the provisions of the Collective Notes signed at London. This being done, it is probable that the affair will end; but if it should not, and if Mehemet Ali, in face of an offer made in conformity with those Protocols by the Porte, should prefer to place himself anew as a rebel, in that case, Prince Metternich has assured me repeatedly that Austria will be ready to take the position into consideration in concert with her Allies, with the object of finding a solution to it.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) BEAUVALE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 242.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Vienna, April* 19, 1841.

HAVING by Lord Palmerston's orders communicated to Prince Metternich copy of his Lordship's despatch to your Excellency of April 10, I am enabled to transmit along with the original his Highness's observations thereupon.

Prince Metternich most positively denied that any proposition had been made by the Plenipotentiaries of Austria and Prussia at London, in compliance with the wishes of the French Government, and he dissented from other points of the historical exposition contained in Lord Palmerston's despatch, but he fully admitted the principle therein stated, that the premature dissolution of the alliance of the Four Powers would encourage Mehemet Ali, and perhaps embolden him to persist in the unreasonable part of his pretensions. Upon this consideration, and in the expectation that the hereditary tenure will have been conceded to him in the spirit of the Collective Notes and of the instructions which have emanated from London, Prince Metternich will by this occasion instruct the Internuncio to co-operate with your Lordship in order to reduce the remaining differences between the Pasha and the Sultan to a reasonable settlement, upon the principle of mutual concession laid down by Lord Palmerston in an early paragraph of his despatch to your Lordship.

In order to give greater weight to your efforts, Prince Metternich proposes that if the Consuls have not already sailed for Egypt, their departure should be delayed until the Pasha shall have notified his

acceptance of the modifications which may have been offered to him by the Sultan.

He also proposes that the dissolution of the alliance of the Four shall in no case be pronounced at Constantinople, nor intimated to Mehemet Ali, but that it shall proceed from the centre of London, and be dependent upon the signature of a treaty with France, and simultaneous therewith.

As these instructions to the Internuncio will probably place your Excellency in communication with him upon various important points treated upon in the answer with which Prince Metternich furnished me to Lord Palmerston's despatch of the 2nd of April, I have the honour to inclose a copy of my answer to that despatch.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) BEAUVALE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 242.

Prince Metternich to the Baron de Stürmer.

M. le Baron, *Vienne, le* 19 *Avril,* 1841.

JE profite du passage d'un courier Anglais pour adresser à Votre Excellence la présente dépêche.

Ce courier porte à Lord Ponsonby des directions précises de sa Cour sur la conduite qu'il aura à tenir, et ces instructions coïncident entièrement avec celles que je vous ai transmises le 2 de ce mois. Une expédition de cet Ambassadeur à son Gouvernement en date du 6 Avril, et dont Lord Beauvale a bien voulu me donner connaissance, me fait admettre comme plus que probable qu'il sera déjà entré dans les voies que lui prescrivaient les arrêtés pris dans le centre de Londres le 5 Mars dernier; je me permets d'espérer que je trouverai la confirmation de ce changement de marche dans vos premiers Rapports.

Votre position, M. le Baron, est aujourd'hui fort simplifiée. Comme les ordres que je vous ai transmis le 2 Avril, et qui ne faisaient que confirmer ceux qui vous ont été adressés antérieurement, coincident avec les directions de Londres que reçoit aujourd'hui Lord Ponsonby, vous vous trouvez placé, ainsi que M. votre Collègue d'Angleterre, sur la stricte ligne des décisions du centre de Londres. M. le Comte de Königsmark et M. de Titow n'auront de leur côté aucune difficulté à suivre la même direction. L'affaire est ainsi bien placée sous le point de vue de l'union entre les Représentans des Quatre Cours, et la manifestation de cette uniformité suffira sans doute pour faire avancer le Divan dans la seule ligne qui puisse lui paraître utile.

La dépêche de Lord Palmerston à Lord Ponsonby dont le présent courier est le porteur, renferme une remarque d'une valeur incontestable; c'est celle qui fait ressortir les graves inconvéniens qui résulteraient si Méhémet Ali se pénétrait de l'idée, que les Quatre Cours, faute d'accord entre elles, refuseraient leur appui au Sultan. Cette remarque qui nous a toujours été présente dans le cours des derniers tems, nous fait attacher une valeur toute particulière à ce que l'union des Cabinets se fasse clairement apercevoir dans celle de leurs organes à Constantinople. Comme il faut une base pour l'union, et que les arrêtés pris à Londres offrent cette base, vous n'aurez pas de peine à régler votre marche dans un sens conforme au but que nous tenons tous en vue, et qu'il s'agit d'atteindre par tous les moyens qui sont encore possibles. Le 5 Mars on croyait à Londres que l'affaire était finie. Cette conviction était fondée sur la persuasion que la Note Collective du 30 Janvier aurait servi de norme aux explications des Représentans des Quatre Cours envers le Divan. C'est par suite de cette supposition que le renvoi immédiat des Consuls à Alexandrie avait été arrêté dans le centre. Je me permets d'admettre comme probable, qu'à Constantinople on aura trouvé prématuré le retour de ces agens en Egypte, et si tel devait en effet avoir été le cas, nous le regarderions comme un bonheur.

Rien ne saurait prouver mieux à Méhémet Ali que les Quatre Cours se maintiennent dans une attitude de solidarité morale utile à la Porte que la suspension du retour des Consuls à Alexandrie jusqu'au moment où sa soumission à son souverain sera complétée, et elle ne le sera que quand elle aura eu lieu non en paroles mais de fait. Le moment de prouver cette soumission par le fait arrivera pour Méhémet Ali après la réponse que la Porte fera à ses représentations ; et comme cette réponse aura lieu maintenant en accord avec la pensée des Quatre Cours, il faudra bien que Méhémet Ali se soumette, à moins de prendre de nouveau l'attitude d'un rebelle.

Il aurait sans doute été désirable que la Porte n'eut point été dans le cas de revenir sur quelques unes des dispositions du firman d'investiture, et que celui-ci eut été conçu de prime abord dans un esprit plus analogue aux vues des Cours; toutefois, cette circonstance, quelque regrettable qu'elle soit, ne change rien au fait; ce qu'il importe à notre avis, ce sera:

1°. De faire bien comprendre et admettre par le Divan la nuance que Lord Ponsonby tient très-sagement en vue, d'éviter avec soin que la Porte ne motive ce qu'il accordera à Méhémet Ali comme une concession que Sa Hautesse ferait à la demande de ce Pacha, mais comme une marque de déférence aux conseils de ses Alliés.

2°. Que les Consuls ne retournent pas à Alexandrie avant que Méhémet Ali n'ait confirmé par sa soumission de fait aux arrêtés définitivement pris par Sa Hautesse, les belles paroles qu'il lui coûte si peu de donner.

Je vous prie, M. le Baron, de vous entendre sur ces nuances, en autant que le besoin pourra encore exister, avec Lord Ponsonby, MM. le Comte de Königsmark et de Titow, et de soutenir avec énergie près du Divan la marche dont vous serez convenu avec MM. vos Collègues.

Recevez, &c.,

(Signé) METTERNICH.

(Translation.)

M. le Baron, *Vienna, April* 19, 1841.

I TAKE the advantage of the passage of an English messenger to address to your Excellency the present despatch.

This messenger conveys to Lord Ponsonby precise directions from his Court on the conduct which he will have to observe, and these instructions coincide entirely with those which I forwarded to you on the 2nd of this month. A communication from that Ambassador to his Government, dated the 6th of April, and which Lord Beauvale has had the goodness to communicate to me, makes me consider as more than probable that he will have already adopted the course prescribed to him by the decisions taken in the centre of London on the 5th of March last; I allow myself to hope that I shall find the confirmation of this alteration of conduct in your first reports.

Your position, M. le Baron, is at present much simplified. As the orders which I sent you on the 2nd of April, and which merely confirmed those previously addressed to you, coincide with the instructions from London which Lord Ponsonby now receives, you, as likewise your English colleague, are placed on the strict line of the decisions of the centre of London. Count Königsmark and M. de Titow will, on their part, have no difficulty in following the same course. The affair is thus correctly placed as regards union between the Representatives of the Four Courts, and the manifestation of this uniformity will doubtless suffice to cause the Divan to proceed in the only line which can appear advantageous to it.

Lord Palmerston's despatch to Lord Ponsonby, of which the present messenger is the bearer, contains an observation of indisputable value ; it is that which points out the serious inconveniences which would result from Mehemet Ali persuading himself that the Four Courts, from want of union among themselves, would refuse their support to the Sultan. This observation, which has continually occurred to us of late, make us attach

an especial value to the union of the Cabinets being made clearly manifest in that of their organs at Constantinople. As a basis is requisite for union, and as the decisions taken at London offer such a basis, you will have no difficulty in regulating your proceedings in conformity with the object which we have all in view, and which it is now the question to attain by all the means which are still possible. On the 5th of March it was thought, at London, that the affair was at an end. This conviction rested on the persuasion that the Collective Note of the 30th of January would have served as a rule for the discussions of the Representatives of the Four Courts with the Divan. As a consequence of this supposition, the immediate return of the Consuls to Alexandria had been determined upon in the centre. I allow myself to consider as probable that the return of these agents to Egypt will have been considered at Constantinople as premature, and if such indeed should have been the case, we should look upon it as a fortunate event.

Nothing can better prove to Mehemet Ali that the Four Courts keep themselves in a position of moral consistency useful to the Porte than the delay of the return of the Consuls to Alexandria until his submission to his Sovereign shall be completed, and it will only be so when it shall take place, not in words, but in deeds. The time for Mehemet Ali proving this submission by deeds, will be after the answer which the Porte shall make to his representations; and as this answer will now be in accordance with the opinion of the Four Courts, Mehemet Ali must submit, unless he again assumes the attitude of a rebel.

It would doubtless have been desirable that the Porte should not have been called upon to retract some of the dispositions of the Firman of Investiture, and that the Firman should in the first instance have been devised in a spirit more in conformity with the views of the Courts: still this circumstance, however to be regretted, makes no alteration in the fact; that which in our opinion is of consequence, will be,—

1. To make the Divan clearly understand and admit the distinction which Lord Ponsonby very wisely keeps in view, of carefully avoiding that the Porte should designate what it shall grant to Mehemet Ali, as a concession made by His Highness to the demands of that Pasha, but as a mark of deference to the advice of his Allies.

2. That the Consuls should not return to Alexandria before Mehemet Ali shall have confirmed by his actual submission to the decisions finally adopted by His Highness, the fair words which it costs him so little to give.

I request you, M. le Baron, as far as it is still necessary, to come to an understanding, with respect to these distinctions, with Lord Ponsonby, Count Königsmark, and M. de Titow, and to support with energy, as regards the Divan, the course upon which you shall have agreed with your Colleagues.

Receive, &c.,
(Signed) METTERNICH.

No. 243.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 3.)

My Lord, *Vienna, April 22, 1841.*

PRINCE METTERNICH is anxious for the close of the Turco-Egyptian affair upon the conditions established in the centre of London; but he looks for this close at Constantinople, and holds it idle to seek for it elsewhere. According to him, "this affair being once closed, the second affair, which may be termed the isolation of France, will cease of itself, and her signature to the Convention will serve to mark that she has re-united herself to the rest of Europe; but this signature cannot put an end to the Turco-Egyptian affair, and will therefore be valueless if it precede instead of following its close."

The Prince is of opinion that the real moment for France to affix her

signature to the Convention will be when we shall learn that an offer of hereditary tenure in conformity with the provisions of the Collective Notes to Chekib Effendi has been made by the Porte to Mehemet Ali. This condition being fulfilled, the Prince thinks it would be a mistake in the French Government to await the acceptance of the offer by the Pasha. It cannot be for the interest or dignity of France to make her conduct dependent upon the will of Mehemet Ali, and if she did so, it could not fail to encourage him in his pretensions, and might thereby retard or entirely impede a conclusion. If, on the contrary, she sign upon the fact of a reasonable offer being made to him, this decision on her part will have a salutary effect on the settlement of the remaining details of the affair.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) BEAUVALE.

No. 244.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 3.)

My Lord, *Vienna, April* 22, 1841.

PRINCE METTERNICH has been informed that the Porte has sent orders to Chekib Effendi to demand anew the guarantee of the Four Powers for the Ottoman Empire. The same demand is to be addressed to France. Prince Metternich has no doubt that it will be answered by a refusal, but he has entered into a reasoning to demonstrate the absurdity of the notion to the Porte. In the same despatch he enters into an examination of the question of the tribute to be paid by Mehemet Ali, and expresses opinions as to the collection of the imposts in various parts of the Ottoman Empire which merit your Lordship's attention. The Prince having furnished me with an extract from his despatch to the Internuncio, I have the honour to inclose copy of it.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) BEAUVALE.

Inclosure in No. 244.

Extract of a Despatch from Prince Metternich to the Baron de Stürmer.

Vienne, le 20 *Avril*, 1841.

LE Divan vient de concevoir une bien malheureuse idée en exprimant le vœu de placer l'Empire Ottoman sous la garantie des Grandes Puissances Européennes. Cette idée, qui est fausse dans son point de départ, est à la fois moralement et matériellement inexécutable. L'idée est fausse parcequ'un Etat ne doit jamais accepter, et dès lors bien moins encore demander à d'autres Etats, un service pour lequel il ne saurait offrir en retour une stricte réciprocité. Dans les circonstances où il en est autrement, l'Etat qui accepte la faveur perd par le fait la fleur de son indépendance. Un Etat placé sous une garantie devient un Etat médiatisé ; car pour qu'une garantie puisse être accordée il faut que l'Etat qui la réclame fasse un acte de soumission aux volontés de l'Etat qui aura la charge de la défendre. Le garant, pour être quelque chose, doit assumer la charge d'un protecteur, et si un protecteur est pour le moins incommode, plusieurs protecteurs deviennent une charge insoutenable. Il n'y a qu'une forme connue pour atteindre le but de la garantie et cependant éviter les inconvéniens de la chose; cette forme est celle de l'alliance défensive. Or, est-ce là ce que veut le Divan ? Ce sera à lui à le proposer ; mais je ne crois pas qu'il trouvera une issue à sa proposition.

Les détails sur le tribut dans lesquels vous êtes entré, M. le Baron, dans l'une de vos dépêches du 7 Avril, ne me prouvent autre chose, sinon que le tribut devrait être énoncé dans un chiffre. Ce n'est pas moi qui ai la prétention de le fixer ; mais ce qui est certain c'est que tout autre mode

de perception réduirait à zero le revenu de l'Egypte, et ouvrirait la porte à des discussions sans fin, et à des mécomptes inévitables. La différence entre la valeur intrinsèque de la monnaie pourra être réglée au moyen d'un arrangement qui reposerait sur un chiffre fixe, et ce chiffre pourrait être élevé ou diminué à des époques déterminées.

Si tout ne me trompe, la Porte devra abandonner dans la majeure partie de ses domaines le mode de perception nouvellement introduit dans plusieurs d'entre elles. En faisant percevoir les impôts par ses propres receveurs, elle n'aura fait qu'augmenter les exactions pour ses sujets et les non-valeurs pour son trésor. L'abonnement fixe, fondé sur une loi tutélaire pour les contribuables, me semble le seul mode de perception possible dans l'Empire Ottoman. Les ineptes novateurs dans cet Empire ont cru qu'il suffisait d'emprunter des formes et des noms à la civilisation Chrétienne pour s'assurer les mêmes effets. Ils ne les obtiendront pas, et retomberont dans les usages d'un passé qu'ils auront contribué à détruire.

(Translation.)

Vienna, April 20, 1841.

THE Divan has just conceived a very unfortunate notion, in expressing the wish to place the Ottoman Empire under the guarantee of the Great European Powers. This notion, which is erroneous at its very outset, is at once morally and materially impracticable. The notion is erroneous because a State ought never to accept, and therefore still much less request, of other States a service for which it is unable to offer in return a strict reciprocity. In the circumstances where it is otherwise, the State which accepts the favour, loses by so doing the bloom of its independence. A State placed under a guarantee becomes a mediatised State; for, in order that a guarantee may be given, it is requisite that the State which applies for it should make an act of submission to the will of the State which will have the charge of its defence. The guaranteeing State, to be of any use, must assume the office of a protector; and if one protector is, to say the least of it, inconvenient, many protectors become an insupportable burden. There is only one known form of attaining the object of the guarantee, and still avoiding the inconvenience of the thing; that form is a defensive alliance: now, is that what the Divan wants? It will be for it to propose such a thing; but I do not think that it will find a result to its proposition.

The details respecting the tribute into which, M. le Baron, you have entered in one of your despatches of the 7th of April, prove to me nothing else, but that the tribute should be stated in one sum. I have no pretension to fix that sum, but what is certain is that every other mode of receipt would reduce the revenue of Egypt to nothing, and would open a door to interminable discussions, and to inevitable mistakes. The difference between the intrinsic value of the coin can be settled by means of an arrangement which should rest on a fixed sum, and that sum might be augmented or diminished at stated periods.

If I am not altogether deceived, the Porte will have to abandon in the greater part of its dominions the mode of receipt recently introduced into several of them. By causing the duties to be collected by its own receivers, it will only have augmented the exactions as far as its subjects are concerned, and the deficiency as far as its treasury is concerned. The stated payment, which rests upon a law salutary as regards those who are called upon to pay, appears to me to be the only practicable mode of receipt in the Ottoman Empire. The silly innovators in that Empire have thought that it was enough to borrow forms and names from Christian civilization, in order to secure the same results. They will not obtain them, and they will relapse into the usages of past times which they will have assisted in destroying.

No. 245.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Beauvale.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, May* 4, 1841.

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 14th ultimo, reporting Prince Metternich's views about the rule of succession in Egypt, and the tribute to be paid by Mehemet Ali to the Sultan, I have to inform your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government consider those views to be sound and practical.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 246.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Beauvale.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, May* 8, 1841.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 22nd ultimo, reporting that Prince Metternich had repeatedly assured you that if Mehemet Ali, instead of accepting an offer made to him by the Sultan, in conformity with the recommendations of the Four Powers, should place himself anew in rebellion towards the Porte, Austria would in such case be ready to take the matter into consideration, in concert with her Allies, for the purpose of coming to some arrangement. I have to instruct your Excellency to express to Prince Metternich the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government at this declaration.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 247.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Beauvale.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, May* 10, 1841.

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 22nd ultimo, reporting Prince Metternich's opinion as to the moment at which it would be most expedient that France should affix her signature to the Convention, the draft of which was initialed on the 15th of March, I have to state to your Excellency, that Her Majesty's Government have felt great pleasure in learning the very sound and judicious view taken by Prince Metternich of the matters treated of in that despatch. It is perfectly true, as his Highness observes, that the isolation of France can only cease when that Treaty, in the execution of which the Four Powers are engaged, and to which France is not a party, shall have been fully carried into effect; for the isolation of France arises from the fact that the Four Powers have undertaken a political operation which France declined to take part in; and when that operation is finished, and the Four Powers fall back into the ordinary state of quiescence in which all Powers are when they are not actively engaged in any combined measures with Allies, then the Four Powers and France will all be equally isolated; and this is a distinction which seems to have been either overlooked or not understood in France.

The French think that the isolation of France will cease by the signature of the proposed Treaty, and that this Treaty will make France enter again into "the European concert;" but the proposed Treaty con-

tains no stipulations for action or for concert; it merely records the determination of the Great Powers to respect the decision and intention of the Sultan in a matter with regard to which he is entitled, as an independent Sovereign, to declare his will.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 248.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Beauvale.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, May* 10, 1841.

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 22nd ultimo, reporting Prince Metternich's opinion that it would not, in the present state of things, be expedient for the Powers of Europe to enter into a guarantee of the integrity of the Turkish Empire, I have to inform your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government entirely agree with Prince Metternich in that opinion. But Her Majesty's Government do not perhaps entirely concur with Prince Metternich in the reasons which, in his despatch to Baron Stürmer, he gives for that opinion.

Prince Metternich argues, that a State which is guaranteed loses thereby its independence, and becomes a mediatized State; that the guaranteeing Power becomes a protecting Power; and that, while it is inconvenient to have even one protector, to have several would be an intolerable burthen; that in fact there is but one form of guarantee free from these inconveniences, and that is a defensive alliance.

Now Her Majesty's Government quite admit that when a single Power guarantees another, such an engagement does place the weaker Power in a situation of dependence upon the stronger, which must derogate from the freedom of action, and from the entire independence of the weaker Power, and must give the stronger one a preponderant influence. But this effect will not be produced in the same degree when the guarantee is given by several Powers; because it is probable that those Powers would have different views and wishes; and these opposite and conflicting impulses would destroy each other.

At all events, Austria has not always held these opinions; because she joined with the other Four Powers in guaranteeing, not merely the integrity, but the independence of Belgium; proving thereby, that she did not consider a guarantee of integrity as being necessarily destructive of independence; and the result, in the case of Belgium, has not shown that the guarantee has deprived Belgium of any portion of her independence.

Again, France, Great Britain, and Russia, guaranteed the integrity and independence of the kingdom of Greece; and although foreign influence has, during the reign of King Otho, exerted a most injurious sway in Greece, yet this evil has not arisen out of the guarantee.

The evil of a guarantee to the State to which it is given is, that it leads such State to rely upon foreign aid for its defence; and then, when the moment comes when that aid is wanted, it may, upon some pretence or other, be withheld, or it may arrive too late.

In the present case of Turkey, if the *status quo* of 1839 had been maintained, and if Mehemet Ali had been left in occupation of Syria, the Sultan would have been constantly exposed to an imminent and serious danger, and there might have been a reason why the Four Powers should have entered into engagements to come to his assistance against Mehemet Ali whenever wanted; but now that Mehemet has been driven back into Egypt, and the Sultan has recovered possession of Syria and of his fleet, and may by good management and perseverance make himself stronger by sea and by land than Mehemet Ali can possibly be, there seems to be no standing danger against which it can be necessary for the Allies to guarantee the Sultan; and therefore it would, on many accounts, be better that Turkey and the other Powers of Europe should stand towards each other in the ordinary relation in which independent States reciprocally stand.

No. 249.

Note from the Plenipotentiaries of Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia, to Chekib Effendi.

Londres, le 10 *Mai*, 1841.

LES Soussignés, Plénipotentiaires des Cours d'Autriche, de la Grande Bretagne, de Prusse, et de Russie, ont eu l'honneur de recevoir la Note en date du 27 d'Avril, par laquelle son Excellence Chékib Effendi, Ambassadeur de la Sublime Porte, en leur communiquant les instructions dont il vient d'être muni, a bien voulu en appeler au concours des Puissances Alliées, afin d'applanir les difficultés qui se sont élevées relativement à l'interprétation de quelques unes des dispositions contenues dans les firmans émanés le 13 Février dernier au sujet de l'arrangement définitif des affaires d'Egypte.

Les dispositions à l'égard desquelles la Sublime Porte a désiré connaître l'avis des Quatre Cours Alliées, se réduisent nommément aux trois points suivans:—

1°. La question de l'hérédité.

2°. La fixation du tribut.

3°. Les promotions militaires.

Les règles générales qui servent à résoudre ces trois questions ont été déterminées en principe par la Convention que la Sublime Porte a conclue le 15 Juillet, 1840, avec les Cours d'Autriche, de la Grande Bretagne, de Prusse, et de Russie.

C'est donc aux principes posés par cette transaction que les Soussignés ont cru devoir se référer dans les communications qu'ils ont eu l'honneur d'adresser successivement à M. l'Ambassadeur Ottoman, nommément dans leurs Notes du 30 Janvier, et du 13 Mars. En se fondant sur la même base, les Soussignés, pour répondre au désir exprimé par son Excellence Chékib Effendi, s'empressent de lui offrir les éclaircissemens suivans.

1°. *La Question de l'Hérédité.*

LE Sultan, en réalisant l'intention que Sa Hautesse avait manifesté dès l'origine de la crise du Levant, a formellement annoncé la détermination de conserver héréditairement l'administration du Pachalic d'Egypte dans la famille de Méhémet Ali, tant que lui et ses descendans se rendront dignes de cette faveur, en remplissant fidèlement les conditions qui y sont attachées.

Ce principe, une fois légalement posé par l'autorité souveraine du Sultan, il ne reste qu'à régler le mode d'après lequel le poste de Gouverneur d'Egypte sera transmise d'un membre de la famille de Méhémet Ali à l'autre.

Or, il a été établi que cette transmission se fera au moyen de l'investiture que le Sultan accordera au nouveau titulaire.

C'est d'accord avec ce principe, que Sa Hautesse, en réintégrant Méhémet Ali dans les fonctions de Gouverneur d'Egypte, a daigné lui adresser le firman du 13 Février.

De plus, par une disposition spéciale que le Sultan a cru devoir communiquer à ses Alliés, ce souverain a dispensé Méhémet Ali de se rendre à Constantinople pour recevoir dans cette capitale l'investiture de son Pachalic.

En même tems, Sa Hautesse a daigné déclarer qu'elle dispensait également Ibrahim Pacha de se rendre à Constantinople, lorsqu'il serait appelé à remplacer Méhémet Ali dans les fonctions de Pacha; et que le firman d'investiture lui serait alors envoyé en Egypte.

En adoptant cette disposition, telle qu'elle a été communiquée aux Cours Alliées, la Sublime Porte a indiqué elle-même le mode d'après lequel Sa Hautesse se proposait de pourvoir à l'administration du Pachalic d'Egypte héréditairement dans la famille de Méhémet Ali.

D'après ce mode, et conformément aux usages établis dans l'Empire Ottoman, c'est donc Ibrahim Pacha qui, à titre de plus âgé dans la famille, se trouve éventuellement appelé à succéder à Méhémet Ali dans le poste de Gouverneur d'Egypte.

En vertu de la même règle, le plus âgé de la famille après Ibrahim Pacha sera considéré comme destiné à remplacer Ibrahim dans la charge de Gouverneur du Pachalic d'Egypte.

Telle est la règle générale que les Plénipotentiaires des Cours Alliées regardent comme la mieux adaptée aux intérêts de la Sublime Porte et la plus analogue aux usages établis dans l'Empire Ottoman.

En répondant ainsi à l'appel que M. l'Ambassadeur Ottoman vient de leur adresser, d'ordre de son Gouvernement, ils ont cru devoir constater que la nomination au poste de Gouverneur d'Egypte appartient exclusivement à Sa Hautesse; que ce droit s'exerce et se manifeste chaque fois par l'investiture conférée au nouveau titulaire; enfin, que cette investiture, accordée par l'autorité Souveraine, constitue le titre en vertu duquel chaque nouveau Gouverneur sera appelé à administrer l'Egypte au nom de Sa Hautesse comme une province fesant partie intégrante de l'Empire Ottoman.

2°. *Fixation du Tribut.*

L'Acte Séparé annexé à la Convention du 15 Juillet, n'a point statué sur la quotité du tribut.

Il a posé seulement en principe:

Que le tribut serait payé annuellement à la Porte;

Qu'il serait proportionné à l'étendue du territoire dont l'administration serait confiée à Méhémet Ali;

Qu'à condition du payement *régulier* du tribut, le Pacha d'Egypte percevrait, au nom du Sultan et comme délégué de Sa Hautesse, les taxes et impôts légalement établis;

Enfin, que moyennant la perception de ces impôts, le Pacha d'Egypte pourvoira à toutes les dépenses de l'administration civile et militaire du dit Pachalic.

En rappelant ici ces dispositions établies en principe par la Convention du 15 Juillet, les Plénipotentiaires des Cours Signataires de cette transaction croiraient dépasser les limites de leurs attributions s'ils émettaient une opinion décisive sur le montant du tribut—question financière relative à l'administration intérieure de l'Empire Ottoman, que les Soussignés, ainsi qu'ils l'ont déjà exprimé dans leur Note du 13 Mars, ne regardent point comme étant de leur ressort.

De plus, ne possédant pas les données statistiques nécessaires pour servir de base à un jugement solide sur les ressources financières de l'Egypte, ils ne sauraient prononcer aucun avis sur la quotité du revenu annuel que le trésor de la Sublime Porte peut retirer de cette province.

Néanmoins, pour satisfaire, autant qu'il est en leur pouvoir, au vœu exprimé par son Excellence Chékib Effendi au nom de la Sublime Porte, ils croient devoir émettre l'idée, qu'au lieu d'affecter au tribut à payer par le Pacha, une partie proportionnelle du revenu brut de l'Egypte, il serait préférable, dans l'intérêt bien-entendu de la Porte, de déterminer le chiffre du tribut par une somme fixe; ce qui assurerait au trésor de Sa Hautesse une recette positive. Toutefois, vu que les bases d'après lesquelles le montant de cette somme serait déterminé, pourraient être sujettes à varier par la suite du tems, il serait peut-être utile que le montant nominal de la dite somme fût soumis à révision à l'expiration de certaines époques.

3°. *Promotions Militaires.*

Le paragraphe 6 de l'Acte Séparé de la Convention du 15 Juillet porte, que les forces de terre et de mer que pourra entretenir le Pacha d'Egypte, fesant partie des forces de l'Empire Ottoman, seront toujours considérées comme entretenues pour le service de l'Etat.

D'après ce principe, les forces militaires employées en Egypte étant celles de Sa Hautesse le Sultan, les officiers de terre et de mer n'obtiendront leur avancement qu'en vertu de l'autorité seule du Souverain à qui appartiennent l'armée et la flotte Ottomanes.

En partant de ce principe, qui est d'une application générale, les Soussignés ne sauraient attacher qu'une importance secondaire à la difficulté qui s'est élevée relativement à la question des promotions militaires en Egypte. C'est au Sultan qu'il appartient de déléguer à cet égard les pouvoirs qu'il jugera nécessaire de confier aux Gouverneurs d'Egypte, en se réservant d'étendre ou de restreindre ces pouvoirs selon que l'expérience et les besoins du service pourront en démontrer l'opportunité.

Si dans la présente Note les Soussignés ont cru devoir borner leurs observations aux trois points ci-dessus mentionnés, c'est que par leurs Notes Collectives du 30 Janvier, du 13 Mars, et par le Protocole du 5 Mars, ils ont déjà prononcé leur jugement quant aux autres conditions renfermées dans l'Acte Séparé annexé à la Convention du 15 Juillet, 1840.

Persévérant dans les vues et opinions qu'ils ont manifestées par les dits Actes, les Soussignés croient devoir s'y référer. Ils ne peuvent considérer la soumission formellement faite par Méhémet Ali que comme absolue; et par conséquent la Question Turco-Egyptienne comme terminée.

Dès lors les Soussignés ne sauraient admettre la supposition, que ce Pacha, en reconnaissance du pardon que le Sultan a daigné lui accorder, et des faveurs que Sa Hautesse lui a conférées ainsi qu'à sa famille, ne se maintienne dans les bornes de l'obéissance et de la soumission qui sont les conditions de ce pardon et de ces faveurs.

Les Plénipotentiaires des Cours d'Autriche, de la Grande Bretagne, de Prusse, et de Russie, en communiquant ces observations à son Excellence Chékib Effendi, l'invitent à vouloir bien les porter à la connaissance de sa Cour, comme devant servir de complément au contenu de leur Note Collective du 13 Mars dernier.

Les Soussignés, &c.,

(Signé) ESTERHAZY. NEUMANN.
PALMERSTON.
BULOW.
BRUNNOW.

(Translation.)

London, May 10, 1841.

The Undersigned, Plenipotentiaries of the Courts of Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia, have had the honour to receive the note dated the 27th of April, by which his Excellency Chekib Effendi, Ambassador of the Sublime Porte, on communicating to them the instructions with which he has just been furnished, has been pleased to appeal to the concurrence of the Allied Powers, in order to smooth away the difficulties which have arisen relative to the interpretation of some of the provisions contained in the firmans published on the 13th of February last, on the subject of the definitive arrangement of the affairs of Egypt.

The provisions, in regard to which the Sublime Porte has desired to know the opinion of the Four Allied Courts, resolve themselves into the three following points:—

1°. The question of hereditary succession.

2°. The settlement of the tribute.

3°. The military promotions.

The general rules which serve to solve these three questions were determined in principle by the Convention which the Sublime Porte concluded on the 15th of July, 1840, with the Courts of Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia.

It is to the principles, therefore, which were laid down in that Act, that the Undersigned have deemed it to be their duty to refer in the communications which they have had the honour successively to address to the Ottoman Ambassador, specifically in their notes of the 30th of January

and of the 13th of March. Resting on the same basis, the Undersigned, in order to comply with the wish expressed by his Excellency Chekib Effendi, hasten to offer to him the following explanations.

1°. *The Question of Hereditary Succession.*

The Sultan, in carrying into effect the intention which His Highness had manifested from the commencement of the crisis in the Levant, has formally announced his determination to maintain hereditarily the administration of the Pashalic of Egypt in the family of Mehemet Ali, so long as he and his descendants shall render themselves worthy of that favour by faithfully fulfilling the conditions which are attached to it.

This principle, once lawfully laid down by the sovereign authority of the Sultan, it only remains to settle the manner in which the post of Governor of Egypt shall be transmitted from one member of the family of Mehemet Ali to the other.

Now, it has been laid down that this transmission shall be effected by means of the investiture which the Sultan shall grant to the new incumbent.

In conformity with this principle, His Highness, in reinstating Mehemet Ali in his functions as Governor of Egypt, has been pleased to address to him the firman of the 13th of February.

Moreover, by a special disposition which the Sultan has thought fit to communicate to his Allies, that Sovereign has relieved Mehemet Ali from proceeding to Constantinople to receive in that capital the investiture of his Pashalic.

At the same time, His Highness has been pleased to declare that he equally relieved Ibrahim Pasha from coming to Constantinople, when he should be called upon to replace Mehemet Ali in the functions of Pasha; and that the firman of investiture should at that time be sent to him in Egypt.

By adopting this arrangement, such as it has been communicated to the Allied Courts, the Sublime Porte has itself indicated the mode in which His Highness proposed to provide for the administration of the Pashalic of Egypt hereditarily in the family of Mehemet Ali.

According, then, to that mode, and in conformity with the usages established in the Ottoman Empire, it is Ibrahim Pasha, who, as the eldest of the family, is eventually called upon to succeed Mehemet Ali in the post of Governor of Egypt.

In pursuance of the same rule, the eldest of the family after Ibrahim Pasha will be considered as destined to replace Ibrahim in the office of Governor of the Pashalic of Egypt.

Such is the general rule which the Plenipotentiaries of the Allied Courts consider to be best adapted to the interests of the Sublime Porte, and the most analogous to the usages established in the Ottoman Empire.

In thus replying to the appeal which the Ottoman Ambassador has just addressed to them, by order of his Government, they have deemed it to be their duty to record that the nomination to the post of Governor of Egypt belongs exclusively to His Highness; that this right is exercised and made manifest on each occasion by the investiture conferred on the new incumbent; finally, that this investiture, granted by the authority of the Sovereign, constitutes the title in virtue of which each new Governor will be called upon to administer Egypt, in the name of His Highness, as a province forming an integral portion of the Ottoman Empire.

2°. *The settlement of the tribute.*

The Separate Act annexed to the Convention of the 15th of July, has not determined the amount of the tribute.

It has only laid down in principle:

That the tribute should be annually paid to the Porte;

That it should be proportioned to the extent of the territory of which the administration should be confided to Mehemet Ali;

That, on condition that the tribute is *regularly* paid, the Pasha of Egypt should receive, in the name of the Sultan, and as the delegate of His Highness, the taxes and duties lawfully established;

Finally, that in consideration of the receipt of these duties, the Pasha of Egypt shall provide for all the expenses of the civil and military administration of the said Pashalic.

In thus reciting these arrangements, which are in principle laid down by the Convention of the 15th of July, the Plenipotentiaries of the Courts parties to that Act would consider that they outstepped the limits of their functions if they were to express a decisive opinion as to the amount of the tribute—a question of finance relating to the internal administration of the Ottoman Empire, which the Undersigned, as they have already stated in their note of the 13th of March, do not consider to be within their province.

Moreover, as they do not possess the necessary statistical data to serve as a basis for an accurate opinion as to the financial resources of Egypt, they cannot pronounce any opinion as to the amount of annual revenue which the treasury of the Sublime Porte can derive from that province.

Nevertheless, in order as far as possible to comply with the wish expressed by his Excellency Chekib Effendi, in the name of the Sublime Porte, they deem it their duty to suggest that, instead of assigning as the tribute to be paid by the Pasha, a certain proportion of the gross revenue of Egypt, it would be preferable, for the real interest of the Porte, to fix the amount of the tribute at a stated sum, which would secure a positive receipt to the treasury of His Highness. Nevertheless, considering that the basis on which the amount of that sum would be settled might in process of time be subject to variation, it might perhaps be advantageous that the nominal amount of the said sum should be subject to revision at the expiration of certain periods.

3°. *The Military Promotions.*

The sixth paragraph of the Separate Act of the Convention of the 15th of July, states, that the military and naval forces which may be maintained by the Pasha of Egypt, forming part of the forces of the Ottoman Empire, shall always be considered as maintained for the service of the State.

According to this principle, the military forces employed in Egypt being those of His Highness the Sultan, the military and naval officers will only obtain their promotion by the sole authority of the Sultan, to whom the Ottoman army and fleet belong.

Setting out from this principle, which is one of general application, the Undersigned can only attach a secondary importance to the difficulty which has arisen with respect to the question of military promotion in Egypt. It appertains to the Sultan to delegate in this respect the powers which he shall deem it necessary to entrust to the Governors of Egypt, reserving to himself to extend or to restrict those powers according as experience and the wants of the service shall show the fitness of so doing.

If in the present note the Undersigned have considered it to be their duty to confine their observations to the three points above mentioned, it is because they have, by their Collective Notes of the 30th of January, of the 13th of March, and by the Protocol of the 5th of March, already pronounced their opinion as to the other conditions contained in the Separate Act annexed to the Convention of the 15th of July, 1840.

Persisting in the views and opinions which they manifested in the said documents, the Uudersigned deem it their duty to refer thereto. They can only look upon the submission formally made by Mehemet Ali as absolute, and, consequently, the Turco-Egyptian Question as terminated.

Henceforward, the Undersigned cannot admit the supposition, that this Pasha, in gratitude for the pardon which the Sultan has been pleased to grant to him, and for the favours which His Highness has conferred

upon him, as well as upon his family, will not keep himself within the bounds of the obedience and submission which are the conditions of that pardon and of those favours.

The Plenipotentiaries of the Courts of Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia, in communicating these observations to his Excellency Chekib Effendi, request him to have the goodness to bring them to the knowledge of his Court as the complement of what is contained in their Collective Note of the 13th of March last.

The Undersigned, &c.,

(Signed) ESTERHAZY NEUMANN.
PALMERSTON.
BULOW.
BRUNNOW.

No. 250.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, May* 10, 1841.

I INCLOSE, for your Excellency's information, a copy of a Note which the Plenipotentiaries of the Four Powers have addressed to Chekib Effendi, in reply to his communication of the instructions which he had received from the Porte, dated the 1st of April, requesting the concurrence of the Four Powers in removing the difficulties which have arisen in the settlement of the differences between the Porte and Mehemet Ali.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

P.S.—I inclose a copy of the Note from Chekib Effendi, in which he transmitted to me the instructions from his Court mentioned in this despatch.

No. 251.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, May* 11, 1841.

I HAVE to instruct your Excellency to state to the Porte, that the Collective Note from the Plenipotentiaries of the Four Powers to the Turkish Ambassador, of the 10th of May, of which a copy is inclosed in my despatch of yesterday, contains the opinion and advice of Her Majesty's Government upon the points still remaining unsettled between Mehemet Ali and the Sultan.

The Representatives of the Four Powers cannot admit the supposition that Mehemet Ali can seriously mean to retract the full and unconditional submission which he made through Captain Fanshawe; and they must assume that, when he receives the communication which the Sultan will no doubt found upon this Collective Note, he will acquiesce in the other conditions of the Separate Act of the Treaty of July.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 252.

Mr. Bulwer to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 10.)

My Lord, *Paris, May* 7, 1841.

THE Count Appony read to me this day a despatch dated 26th April, which he had received from his Court, and which he communicated yesterday to M. Guizot. The object of that despatch was to state,—

1st. That Prince Metternich thought it perfectly natural that the French Government should decline signing the Additional Convention, until the questions arising out of the Treaty of 15th July were terminated.

2ndly. That he should consider that those questions were terminated when the Porte should adopt the suggestions recently made to it by the Four Powers; and that consequently he should expect M. Guizot in such case to sign the initialed arrangement without further delay.

M. Guizot said that he should certainly not place his actions under the control of Mehemet Ali, nor allow that person's conduct to dictate his own; but that saying thus much he should say no more, but hold himself perfectly free to act as he should think proper when he saw the new conditions offered by the Sultan.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) HENRY L. BULWER.

No. 253.

Viscount Palmerston to Lieutenant-Colonel Napier.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, May* 14, 1841.

I HAVE to instruct you, immediately on the receipt of this despatch, to proceed to Alexandria to demand from Mehemet Ali the release of the Syrian soldiers, whom he promised Sir Charles Napier to dismiss; and you will accompany those soldiers back to Syria.

I have applied to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to provide you with a passage on board the steam-vessel which conveys the mail from Gibraltar to Malta; and the Admiral at Malta will be instructed to send you on to Alexandria, and also to make arrangements for conveying the Syrian soldiers, when released by Mehemet Ali, from Egypt to the coast of Syria.

You will report your proceedings in execution of this instruction directly to me, and also to Colonel Bridgeman, or the officer commanding the British detachments on shore in Syria, to whose orders you will be subject while employed on this service; and who will be instructed to direct you to return to your regiment when the service is completed.

I inclose a despatch to Colonel Hodges, directing him to join you in demanding from Mehemet Ali the release of these Syrians; and you will deliver the same to Colonel Hodges, if he should be at Alexandria, when you arrive there. But you will not delay making the demand, if Colonel Hodges should not have arrived.

No. 254.

Viscount Palmerston to Colonel Hodges.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May* 14, 1841.

I HAVE to acquaint you that Lieutenant-Colonel Napier has been instructed to proceed to Alexandria, to demand from Mehemet Ali the performance of the promise which Mehemet Ali made to Sir Charles Napier, that he would dismiss the Syrian soldiers who accompanied the Egyptian army in its retreat from Syria.

I have to instruct you to join with Lieutenant-Colonel Napier in making this demand; and to point out to Mehemet Ali, that any military advantage which he may fancy he might gain by retaining these men in his service, would be insignificant, compared with the injury he would do himself if he were to break faith in this matter with the British Government, by violating an engagement made by him to one of Her Majesty's officers.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 255.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, May* 14, 1841.

I INCLOSE for your Excellency's information a copy of an instruction which I have given to Lieutenant-Colonel Napier, directing him to proceed to Alexandria to demand the release of the Syrian soldiers whom Mehemet Ali promised Sir Charles Napier to dismiss; and a copy of an instruction which I have sent to Colonel Hodges, directing him to join with Lieutenant-Colonel Napier in making this demand.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 256.

Baron Brunnow to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 18.)

My Lord, *Londres, ce* 15 *Mai,* 1841.

IL y a aujourd'hui deux mois que nous avons paraphé la Convention conclue par les Cours de Russie, d'Autriche, de France, de la Grande Bretagne, et de Prusse, avec Sa Hautesse le Sultan, relative au principe de la fermeture des détroits des Dardanelles et du Bosphore.

Votre Excellence voudra bien se rappeler qu'à l'époque où nous avons conclu cette transaction, je me suis décidé à y concourir, avant même d'avoir reçu les Plein-pouvoirs formels qui m'étaient nécessaires pour signer cet Acte.

A cette époque, ayant déjà sollicité auprès du Cabinet Impérial l'envoi de mes Plein-pouvoirs et me trouvant dans l'attente de les recevoir, je ne vous ai pas laissé ignorer qu'il me paraissait plus régulier de ne procéder à la conclusion de l'Acte projeté que lorsque j'aurais reçu à cet effet l'ordre formel qui devait m'autoriser à y apposer ma signature.

Quelque fondés que fussent les motifs qui m'ont porté à émettre alors cette opinion dans nos entretiens avec MM. les Plénipotentiaires d'Autriche et de Prusse, deux considérations, vous le savez, m'ont décidé à ne pas y insister :

1°. J'ai partagé avec vous le désir de ne pas retarder l'accomplissement d'une œuvre de conciliation qui, en manifestant l'accord heureusement rétabli entre les Cinq Puissances, ferait cesser l'isolement volontaire de la France, et offrirait ainsi à la paix de l'Europe un nouveau gage de sécurité.

2°. J'ai reconnu le besoin d'accélérer autant que possible le moment où nos Alliés du Continent seraient libérés du fardeau que leur imposent les préparatifs militaires qu'ils ont été obligé de faire en présence des armemens de la France; attitude mutuellement onéreuse que nous avions tous à cœur de faire cesser, en assurant enfin à l'Europe le bienfait d'une paix réelle, sans défiance et sans armes.

Telles sont, Mylord, les raisons qui m'ont déterminé à prendre sur moi de concourir à la transaction que nous avons arrêtée, avant que les distances qui me séparent de mon Cabinet m'eussent permis de recevoir les Plein-pouvoirs que j'avais sollicités.

En prenant cette détermination, j'avais la conviction que les motifs de ma conduite seraient honorés de l'approbation de Sa Majesté l'Empereur.

Cet espoir n'a pas tardé à être confirmé: dans le plus court délai possible, les Plein-pouvoirs que j'avais sollicités me sont parvenus. Et par un effet de cette constance de vues et de principes qui ont invariablement guidé le Cabinet Impérial durant toute la crise du Levant, l'Empereur a daigné me renvoyer le même Plein-pouvoir en vertu duquel j'ai

signé la Convention du 15 Juillet; Plein-pouvoir dont Sa Majesté avait daigné me munir dès l'origine pour signer un Acte à cinq sur la pacification de l'Orient. Il suffira de la simple date de ce document pour démontrer une fois de plus, que jamais nous n'avons voulu exclure la France de ce pacte mémorable, puisque, si elle avait voulu y participer, j'étais pleinement autorisé à conclure et à signer avec elle la Convention de Juillet.

C'est en vertu de ce même Plein-pouvoir que l'Empereur m'a autorisé maintenant à signer la Convention relative aux détroits des Dardanelles et du Bosphore; transaction dont Sa Majesté a daigné approuver la teneur telle que nous l'avons arrêtée de concert par la Convention paraphée le 15 Mars.

Me trouvant muni à cet effet des ordres formels de ma Cour, et ayant reçu l'assentiment de l'Empereur à l'œuvre de conciliation que nos soins ont été employés à accomplir, je ne saurais m'empêcher de rappeler aujourd'hui, que les motifs qui nous ont décidé dans le tems à accélérer cette œuvre, continuent à subsister dans toute leur force. Aujourd'hui comme alors, l'Europe réclame de nous ce gage de paix que nos efforts et nos travaux réunis ont eu pour but de lui offrir.

Cependant, ce résultat si désirable a été différé jusqu'à ce jour par des obstacles indépendans de notre volonté.

En effet, à l'époque où nous avons définitivement arrêté la rédaction de la Convention relative aux détroits des Dardanelles et du Bosphore, le Cabinet des Tuileries a hésité de signer cet Acte, et n'a autorisé son Plénipotentiaire qu'à le parapher.

Animés d'un sincère désir de conciliation, nous n'avons pas voulu élever alors une contestation fâcheuse sur un simple délai que nous avions lieu de considérer comme de peu de durée; et dans cette persuasion nous avons apprécié avec la plus grande équité les motifs de l'hésitation qu'éprouvait le Cabinet des Tuileries. Elle provenait nommément de l'appréhension que le Ministère Français avait conçue, que de nouvelles difficultés pourraient survenir à Alexandrie à la suite des firmans émanés à Constantinople le 13 Février; et qu'au milieu des complications auxquelles cet état de choses pourrait conduire, les Cours signataires de la Convention du 15 Juillet seraient appelées peut-être à interposer en faveur de la Porte des démarches et des actes ultérieurs, auxquels la France devrait rester étrangère.

Dans cet état d'incertitude, le Cabinet des Tuileries a jugé préférable, dans l'intérêt de sa position, de ne pas apposer sa signature à la Convention projetée, aussi longtems que resterait encore ouverte l'éventualité d'une intervention à laquelle la France ne participerait point.

Si nous avons compris cette difficulté, et si nous avons témoigné alors de justes égards au Cabinet des Tuileries en ne recusant pas les motifs qui l'engageaient à différer la signature de la Convention arrêtée à Londres le 15 Mars, qu'il me soit permis de dire aujourd'hui que les motifs de ce retard ont complètement cessé d'exister.

La Porte Ottomane a désiré elle-même applanir les difficultés qui s'étaient élévées au sujet de l'interprétation de quelques unes des dispositions des firmans du 13 Février. Dans ce but, elle a chargé son Ambassadeur à Londres de nous adresser la communication dont Chékib Effendi s'est acquitté le 27 Avril. La réponse que nous venons de lui faire est conçue de manière à éloigner toute incertitude sur les questions de détail qu'il restait à résoudre. Elle annonce en même tems dans les termes les plus positifs: "Que nous ne pouvons considérer la soumission de Méhémet Ali que comme absolue, et par conséquent l'Affaire Turco-Egyptienne comme terminée."

Les chances d'une nouvelle complication que le Cabinet Français avait prévue au mois de Mars dernier, se trouvent ainsi heureusement écartées. Nos soins réunis ont été consacrés à empêcher que cette éventualité ne vînt à se réaliser. S'il restait aujourd'hui une seule chance de complication future, ce serait celle de voir Méhémet Ali, enhardi par la condescendance de la Porte, élever de rechef ses prétentions au point de faire surgir de nouvelles contestations, de manière à mettre en péri la paix à peine rétablie dans le Levant.

Or, il est évident, que tant que Méhémet Ali conserve l'espoir de voir subsister encore un reste de mésintelligence entre les Grandes Puissances de l'Europe, il fondera sur cet espoir tous ses calculs; dès lors, il se montrera moins traitable envers la Porte; multipliera ses demandes et ses exigences; et se livrera de nouveau aux mêmes espérances qu'il a nourries à l'époque où il croyait pouvoir exploiter au profit de son ambition le manque d'accord qui régnait entre les Cinq Puissances.

Tous ces calculs de Méhémet Ali tomberont lorsqu'il verra que la France, replacée aujourd'hui sous une administration sagement pacifique, s'est rapprochée des autres Cabinets pour attester en commun avec eux le respect qu'elle porte à l'inviolabilité des droits de souveraineté du Sultan, ainsi que son sincère désir de voir se consolider le repos de l'Empire Ottoman.

En manifestant ces déterminations dans un but de conservation et de paix, la France démontrera ainsi à Méhémet Ali qu'il ne saurait compter sur elle s'il essayait de rechef de porter atteinte aux droits de souveraineté de la Porte, ou s'il cherchait encore une fois à compromettre le repos de l'Empire Ottoman.

Dès lors, le Pacha d'Egypte, voyant l'unanimité des Grandes Puissances parfaitement rétablie, se résignerait à se renfermer dans les bornes de l'obéissance, et renoncerait à élever envers la Porte des prétentions inadmissibles qui, tôt ou tard, finiraient par conduire à un renouvellement d'hostilité.

Dans l'état actuel des choses, le Gouvernement Français, s'il différait encore la signature de la Convention que nous avons conclue, risquerait donc d'encourager, sans le vouloir, les espérances de Méhémet Ali; de hausser ses prétentions envers la Porte, et de multiplier ainsi les causes qui tendent à prolonger cette crise dont la France, de concert avec les Quatre Cours Alliées, désirerait hâter le terme.

Dans la circonstance du moment, la signature de la Convention projetée, par l'effet moral qu'elle devra produire sur Méhémet Ali, me parait donc le meilleur moyen à employer pour le retenir dans les bornes de la soumission et du devoir, et pour assurer ainsi la stabilité du repos que toutes les Puissances de l'Europe ont également à cœur de raffermir dans le Levant.

Telles sont, Mylord, les considérations d'un intérêt général sur lesquelles je me permets d'appeler votre attention. Je m'acquitte de ce devoir avec la certitude de rencontrer par là vos intentions ainsi que celles de mes Collègues d'Autriche et de Prusse. Pour ma part, ayant reçu l'ordre formel de signer la Convention que nous avons conclue il y a deux mois, je croirais mal répondre à la sollicitude de l'Empereur, si je ne signalais pas aujourd'hui l'importance qu'il y a à ne pas différer davantage l'accomplissement d'une œuvre de conciliation que l'Europe attend depuis si longtems, et qu'elle regarde avec confiance comme un nouveau gage de l'affermissement de la paix générale.

Veuillez, &c.,

(Signé) BRUNNOW.

(Translation.)

My Lord, *London, May* 15, 1841.

IT is two months to-day since we initialed the Convention concluded by the Courts of Russia, Austria, France, Great Britain, and Prussia with His Highness the Sultan, relative to the principle of the closing of the Straights of the Dardanelles and of the Bosphorus.

Your Excellency will have the goodness to recollect that at the time when we concluded that agreement, I determined to concur in it, even before I had received the formal Full Powers which were required by me for the signature of that Act.

At that time, having already applied to the Imperial Cabinet to send my Full Powers, and being in the expectation of receiving them, I did not allow you to be ignorant that it seemed to me more regular not to proceed

to the conclusion of the Act in contemplation until I should have received the formal order to that effect which should authorize me to sign it.

Whatever foundation there was for the reasons which induced me at that time to express this opinion in our discussions with the Plenipotentiaries of Austria and Prussia, two considerations, you are aware, decided me not to insist thereupon.

1°. I shared with you the desire of not retarding the accomplishment of a work of reconciliation, which, by manifesting the agreement happily re-established among the Five Powers, would cause the voluntary isolation of France to cease, and would thus offer to the peace of Europe a new pledge of security.

2°. I perceived the necessity of accelerating as much as possible the arrival of the period at which our Allies of the Continent might be released from the burden imposed upon them by the military preparations which they have been obliged to make by reason of the armaments of France; an attitude mutually onerous, which we all had at heart to bring to an end, by ensuring at length to Europe the benefit of a real peace, without distrust and without arms.

Such, my Lord, are the reasons which decided me to take upon myself to concur in the agreement to which we came, previously to the distance which separates me from my Cabinet having admitted of my receiving the Full Powers for which I had applied.

In adopting this decision, I felt convinced that the reasons for my conduct would be honoured with the approbation of His Majesty the Emperor.

This hope was presently confirmed; after the shortest delay possible, the Full Powers for which I had applied reached me. And as a consequence of that steadiness of views and of principles which have invariably guided the Imperial Cabinet during the whole crisis of the Levant, the Emperor has been pleased to send back to me the same Full Power, in virtue of which I signed the Convention of the 15th of July; the Full Power with which His Majesty had in the beginning been pleased to furnish me, for the signature of a Quintuple Act on the pacification of the Levant. The mere date of this document will suffice once more to prove that we have never been desirous of excluding France from that memorable compact, since, if she had been willing to take part in it, I was fully authorized to conclude and sign with her the Convention of July.

It is in virtue of this same Full Power that the Emperor has authorized me now to sign the Convention relative to the Straights of the Dardanelles and of the Bosphorus; an agreement the tenour of which, such as we settled it in concert by the Convention initialed on the 15th of March, His Majesty has been pleased to approve.

Being provided for this purpose with the formal orders of my Court, and having received the assent of the Emperor to the work of reconciliation which our efforts have been employed in accomplishing, I cannot help repeating at present that the reasons which decided us at the time to accelerate that work, continue to subsist in all their force. Now, as then, Europe requires from us this pledge of peace which our united efforts and labours had for their object to offer to her.

Nevertheless, this so desirable result has been put off up to the present time, by obstacles independent of our will.

In fact, at the time when we finally settled the terms of the Convention relative to the Straights of the Dardanelles and of the Bosphorus, the Cabinet of the Tuileries hesitated to sign that Act, and only authorized its Plenipotentiary to initial it.

Being animated with a sincere desire of reconciliation, we were unwilling at that time to raise an angry discussion upon a mere delay which we had grounds for considering of short duration; and under this persuasion we appreciated with the utmost equity the motives of the hesitation felt by the Cabinet of the Tuileries. It originated namely in the apprehension entertained by the French Ministry, that new difficulties might arise at Alexandria in consequence of the firmans issued at Constantinople on the 13th of February; and that in the midst of the complications to which that state of things might lead, the Courts parties to

the Convention of the 15th of July might perhaps be called upon to interpose in favour of the Porte by further proceedings and Acts, to which France would have to remain a stranger.

In this state of uncertainty, the Cabinet of the Tuileries deemed it preferable, with reference to its own position, not to affix its signature to the contemplated Convention, so long as the contingency of an intervention in which France would take no part, still remained open.

If we comprehended that difficulty, and if we manifested at that time due consideration for the Cabinet of the Tuileries in not rejecting the grounds which induced it to put off the signature of the Convention agreed upon in London on the 15th of March, permit me at the present time to say, that the grounds of that delay have altogether ceased to have any existence.

The Ottoman Porte has been desirous itself to smooth away the difficulties which had arisen on the subject of the interpretation of some of the provisions of the firmans of the 13th of February. With this view, it has directed its Ambassador at London to address to us the communication which Chekib Effendi made on the 27th of April. The answer which we have just returned to him is drawn up so as to remove all uncertainty upon the questions of detail which remained to be solved. It states at the same time, in the most positive terms, "that we cannot but consider the submission of Mehemet Ali as absolute, and, consequently, the Turco-Egyptian affair as terminated."

The chances of a new complication which the French Cabinet had foreseen in the month of March last, are thus happily removed. Our united efforts have been employed to prevent this contingency from being realized. If there should remain at present a single chance of future complication, it would be that of Mehemet Ali, encouraged by the compliance of the Porte, raising his pretensions anew so as to give rise to discussions, in such a manner as to put in jeopardy the peace scarcely re-established in the Levant.

Now, it is evident, that so long as Mehemet Ali retains the hope of seeing a remnant of misunderstanding still subsist among the Great Powers of Europe, he will rest upon that hope all his calculations; thenceforth he will show himself less tractable towards the Porte; will multiply his demands and his exactions; and will again give himself up to the same expectations as those which he cherished, at the time when he thought he might turn to the advantage of his own ambition, the want of agreement which prevailed among the Five Powers.

All these calculations of Mehemet Ali will fall to the ground when he shall see that France, now replaced under an administration wisely pacific, has drawn closer to the other Cabinets, in order to testify in common with them the respect which she entertains for the inviolability of the Sultan's rights of Sovereignty, as well as her sincere desire to see the repose of the Ottoman Empire firmly established.

By evincing these determinations for a conservative and peaceful purpose, France will thus prove to Mehemet Ali, that he cannot count upon her if he should again attempt to assail the rights of Sovereignty of the Porte, or if he should seek once again to compromise the repose of the Ottoman Empire.

Thereupon, the Pasha of Egypt, beholding the unanimity of the Great Powers perfectly re-established, would resign himself to remaining within the bounds of obedience, and would abstain from putting forth pretensions with regard to the Porte which, sooner or later, would end by leading to a renewal of hostility.

In the actual state of things then, the French Government, if it should still delay signing the Convention which we have concluded, would run the risk of encouraging, without wishing to do so, the expectations of Mehemet Ali; of increasing his pretensions as regards the Porte; and of thus multiplying the causes which tend to prolong that crisis, of which France, in concert with the Allied Courts, would desire to hasten the termination.

Under existing circumstances then, the signature of the contemplated Convention, by the moral effect which it will necessarily produce upon

Mehemet Ali, appears to me the best means which can be employed for retaining him within the bounds of submission and of duty, and for ensuring thereby the stability of the repose which all the Powers of Europe have equally at heart to confirm in the Levant.

Such, my Lord, are the considerations of general interest to which I allow myself to call your attention. I perform this duty with the certainty of falling in with, by so doing, your intentions, as well as those of my Colleagues of Austria and of Prussia. For my part, having received the formal order to sign the Convention which we concluded two months ago, I should consider that I did not act in accordance with the anxiety of the Emperor, if I did not now point out how important it is no longer to delay the accomplishment of a work of reconciliation which Europe has for so long a time been looking to, and which it confidently considers as a new pledge for the confirmation of the general peace.

Be pleased, &c.,
(Signed) BRUNNOW.

No. 257.

Mr. Bulwer to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 17.)

(Extract.) *Paris, May* 14, 1841.

YOUR Lordship will probably be already aware, since I understand that the papers just communicated to me by Count Appony * have been forwarded to London, that the Reis Effendi addressed a memorandum on the 19th of April to the Ambassadors of the Four Powers, informing them of the intentions of the Sultan, (acquiescing thereby in the representations of his Allies,) to award the hereditary grant of the Pashalic of Egypt to Mehemet Ali, to give him the nomination of the officers in the army up to the rank of Colonel, (that title being included,) and to change the Tribute, so that instead of the fourth part of the revenue of Egypt, it should be a fixed sum, that sum to be determined by the existing resources of the country. I hear, in reference to this, that the Austrian Internuncio recommended Rifaat to adopt the sum of 15,000 purses (something less, I believe, than 2,000,000 of Francs,) Rifaat himself being inclined to insist on 18,000 purses. The Reis Effendi at the same time, requests the Ambassadors to define with more accuracy than they have yet done, the manner in which they considered that the laws of the rest of the Turkish empire should be applied to Mehemet's Pashalic; to which I understand, that the Representative of Austria replied by saying, that while it was no doubt necessary that the general system of government proclaimed by the Porte should extend throughout the Sultan's dominions, he did not doubt but that this would be done with due reference to the peculiar circumstances that prevailed in the different portions of the Turkish empire. M. Guizot said to Count Appony, that he considered the arrangement satisfactory, and that as soon as it was notified to M. de Bourqueney by the Conference in London, the French Chargé d'Affaires would have instructions to sign the Treaty of the 15th March.

I also saw M. Guizot this morning before seeing Count Appony, and being then aware of the general nature of the intelligence which the Count afterwards gave me in detail, asked his Excellency whether he did not now feel ready to conclude the Separate Convention to which I have just alluded. M. Guizot said, "Yes, I shall in all probability give Baron de Bourqueney instructions to that effect; still I should first wish to hear that the firman had been acctually sent. Of this, however," he continued, "be sure, I shall never submit my decision to Mehemet Ali's."

A council is to be held this day on the subject.

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* Inclosure in No. 260.

No. 258.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 17.)

My Lord, *Therapia, April* 14, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of an official Note I this day received from his Excellency the Internuncio, and my reply to it.

I hope my answer will show sufficiently, for the present occasion, what I have done. I have strictly followed your Lordship's instructions according to my understanding of the documents referred to therein.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 258.

Baron de Stürmer to Viscount Ponsonby.

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, *Constantinople*, 13 *Avril*, 1841.

L'ESTAFETTE arrivée de Vienne hier au soir m'a apporté la dépêche ci-jointe que je m'empresse de porter à la connaissance de votre Excellence, en la priant de me la renvoyer dès qu'elle en aura pris lecture.

Vous y verrez, M. l'Ambassadeur, qu'il m'est enjoint de la manière la plus péremptoire d'insister auprès de la Porte pour qu'il plaise à Sa Hautesse de se conformer sans délai ultérieur aux vœux de ses augustes Alliées.

Tous mes efforts doivent dès lors être consacrés à ce but, et j'ose prier votre Excellence de me dire si je puis compter dans cette circonstance sur son concours? Celui de nos Collègues de Russie et de Prusse m'est déjà assuré, et M. le Comte de Königsmark étant venu en ville par hasard ce matin, nous avons pu en conférer aussitôt avec M. de Titow, et sommes tombés d'accord dès aujourd'hui de tenir à la Porte un langage parfaitement uniforme. Nous serions heureux de voir votre Excellence se joindre à nous, et même de se mettre à notre tête, afin de pouvoir ainsi constater de nouveau aux yeux de la Porte et du monde l'union qui jusqu'ici a présidé à tous les actes de l'alliance.

Veuillez, &c.,
(Signé) STURMER.

(Translation.)

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Constantinople, April* 13, 1841.

THE estafette which arrived yesterday evening from Vienna has brought me the annexed despatch which I hasten to communicate to your Excellency, requesting you to send it back to me after having read it.

You will see therein, M. l'Ambassadeur, that I am enjoined in the most peremptory manner to insist with the Porte that His Highness may be pleased to conform himself without further delay to the wishes of his August Allies.

All my efforts must henceforth be devoted to this object, and I venture to request your Excellency to inform me if I can reckon upon your concurrence in this instance? I am already assured of that of our Colleagues of Russia and Prussia, and Count Kœnigsmark having accidentally come into town this morning, we have been enabled forthwith to confer thereupon with M. de Titow, and we have agreed from this very day to hold to the Porte a language altogether uniform. We should be happy to see your Excellency join us, and even put yourself at our head, in order thus

to have it in our power again to manifest to the Porte and to the world the union which up to this time has prevailed in all the acts of the alliance.

Be pleased, &c.,
(Signed) STURMER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 258.

Viscount Ponsonby to the Baron de Stürmer.

Monsieur l'Internonce, *Therapia, April* 14, 1841.

I HAD the honour to receive this day at a few minutes before 4 o'clock your Excellency's official Note dated the 13th instant, and I reply to it without a moment's delay. Your Excellency has communicated to me a despatch you have received from Vienna, containing directions for the conduct your Excellency is to pursue, and your Excellency expresses your desire that I should act in co-operation with your Excellency and both our Colleagues of Russia and Prussia, in furtherance of the measure you are directed to adopt. If I am not in error, the measure you are to take, is to make known to the Sublime Porte the opinions and views of the Conference at London, as that opinion, or those views, are stated and exposed in the Collective Note of the Representatives of the Four Powers addressed to Chekib Effendi, and dated 13th of March, 1841, and in Lord Palmerston's instructions, dated 16th of March, 1841, and addressed to me.

I have already had the honour to acquaint you, that I had not only made known to the Ottoman Minister the contents of those documents, stating at the same time the opinion I entertained of the anxiety of the Allies to bring the Egyptian Question to a termination at any rate; but I also communicated to the Minister for Foreign Affairs the Collective Note and Lord Palmerston's instructions in original. Your Excellency will therefore be satisfied that I have already done in my individual capacity that which is so fervently urged in the despatch your Excellency has received.

Your Excellency will, I am sure, have the goodness to acquaint me what you and our Colleagues may desire to have done further for making known the opinion and views of the Conference to the Sublime Porte; I mean the mode of acting. Your Excellency is, no doubt, fully informed of the fact that the Ottoman Ministers have come to a decision to modify the Article of succession to the Government of Egypt, with the view of rendering it agreeable to the wishes of the Conference; that the Ottoman Ministers have also modified, with a similar intention, the Article of the military rank to be conferred by the Pasha of Egypt; and that they are engaged in considering in what manner the Article of tribute may be modified so as to meet the views of the Conference.

Your Excellency is also acquainted with the disposition manifested in the instructions sent by Rechid Pasha to Chekib Effendi, to arrange this last-mentioned point; and no doubt your Excellency will esteem that to be an evidence from which we may draw the conclusion, that the Sublime Porte is desirous to gratify the wishes of the High Allies of the Sultan, and may be supposed likely to act in the spirit of concession whenever the wishes of those Powers shall have been made known to the Sublime Porte.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 259.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 17.)

My Lord, *Therapia, April* 14, 1841.

THE Sublime Porte has come to the resolution,—

1st. That the Government of Egypt shall be inherited by the eldest son.

2nd. That Mehemet Ali shall have the right to appoint officers to any rank in the army below that of General of Brigade; but a General of Brigade being a Pasha, the Porte refuses to allow Mehemet Ali to name Pashas.

3rd. The tribute will be fixed at a given sum.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 260.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 17.)

My Lord, *Therapia, April* 21, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a memorandum from the Porte, and my answer.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 260.

Memorandum from the Sublime Porte to the Representatives of the Four Powers. April 19, 1841.

(Traduction.)

SA Hautesse, eu égard aux conseils bienveillans que les Hautes Cours Alliées viennent encore de lui donner, et voulant donner de nouveaux témoignages de ses faveurs souveraines dont elle a déjà usé envers Méhémet Ali Pacha, s'empresse de déclarer que:—

L'hérédité du gouvernement de l'Egypte est accordée à Méhémet Ali Pacha, à condition qu'il exécutera complètement, ainsi qu'il le dit dans sa lettre, les traités et les autres engagemens de la Sublime Porte actuellement existans et à être conclus à l'avenir avec toutes les Puissances Amies; la succession au gouvernement devant passer en ligne droite dans la postérité mâle, de l'aîné à l'aîné, parmi les fils et les petits-fils, à chaque vacance, la nomination de celui qui devra être Gouverneur de l'Egypte se fera de la part de la Sublime Porte.

On ne songe plus à établir pour tribut le quart des revenus; mais le tribut sera proportionné aux revenus actuels de l'Egypte; et le quantum qui aura été fixé sera perçu comme un tout à être payé annuellement.

Quant aux grades militaires, on pourra nommer en Egypte jusqu'au rang de Colonel; lorsqu'il s'agira d'un rang supérieur à celui de Colonel, on le demandera à la Sublime Porte qui l'accordera gracieusement.

On est après de faire des arrangemens à tous ces égards.

Mais dans la lettre arrivée de la part de Méhémet Ali Pacha, il n'y a rien de précis relativement à la mise complètement à exécution des lois de la Sublime Porte en Egypte: or, c'est là un point établi par l'Acte Séparé du Traité d'Alliance; et comme on ne peut pas savoir ce que les Puissances Alliées diront, lorsqu'elles verront de la part de Méhémet

Ali, soit à présent soit à l'avenir, des procédés montrant qu'il n'a pas accepté et qu'il ne remplit pas une condition qui est de l'essence du Traité, les Ministres de la Sublime Porte ont jugé qu'il est important de demander à votre Excellence quelles sont ses notions précises là-dessus, et quelle communication elle aurait à faire sur ce point?

Nous vous prions donc de vouloir bien nous faire savoir par écrit ce que vous avez à dire sur le point dont nous venons de parler; et c'est pour cela que nous vous remettons le présent Mémorandum.

(Translation.)

April 19, 1841.

HIS Highness, having regard to the benevolent advice which the High Allied Courts have now again offered to him, and being desirous of affording fresh evidence of his sovereign favour, which he has already exerted with regard to Mehemet Ali Pasha, hastens to declare that:

The hereditary succession to the Government of Egypt is granted to Mehemet Ali Pasha, on condition that he shall execute completely, as he says in his letter, the Treaties and the other engagements of the Sublime Porte, now existing, or to be hereafter concluded, with all friendly Powers; as the succession to the Government is to descend in a direct line in his male posterity, from the elder to the elder, among the sons and grandsons, on each vacancy, the appointment of that person who shall be Governor of Egypt shall be made by the Sublime Porte.

There is no longer any idea of fixing the fourth part of the revenues as tribute; but the tribute shall be proportioned to the actual revenues of Egypt; and the amount which shall be fixed upon, shall be received in one sum to be paid annually.

As to military ranks, nominations may be made in Egypt up to the rank of Colonel; when there shall be question of a higher rank, it shall be applied for to the Sublime Porte, which will graciously grant it.

Arrangements are being made in all these respects.

*But in the letter which has arrived from Mehemet Ali nothing precise is said relative to the complete execution in Egypt of the laws of the Sublime Porte: now, that is a point laid down in the Separate Act of the Treaty of Alliance; and as it is not possible to know what the Allied Powers will say, when they shall see on the part of Mehemet Ali, either now or hereafter, proceedings showing that he has not accepted and that he does not fulfil a condition which is one of the essentials of the Treaty, the Ministers of the Sublime Porte have considered it important to inquire of your Excellency what are your precise notions on that point, and what communication it ought to make thereupon?

We request you therefore to have the goodness to acquaint us in writing with what you have to say on the point above-mentioned; and it is for that purpose that we transmit to you this Memorandum.

Inclosure 2 in No. 260.

Viscount Ponsonby to Rifaat Pasha.

Therapia, April 26, 1841.

THE Undersigned has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a Memorandum communicated to him from the Sublime Porte by his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs, dated 19th April, wherein, after having stated the measures determined upon by the Sublime Porte with reference to Mehemet Ali, the Sublime Porte is pleased to desire to have his opinion in writing upon a point which is stated as follows: "*Mais dans la lettre arrivée de la part de Méhémet Ali Pacha, il n'y a rien de précis relativement à la mise complètement à exécution des lois de la Sublime Porte en Egypte; or, c'est là un point établi par l'Acte Séparé du Traité d'Alliance; et comme on ne peut pas savoir ce que les Puissances Alliées

* For translation, see translation of Inclosure 1 in 260.

diront, lorsqu'elles verront de la part de Méhémet Ali, soit à présent soit à l'avenir, des procédés montrant qu'il n'a pas accepté et qu'il ne remplit pas une condition qui est de l'essence du Traité, les Ministres de la Sublime Porte ont jugé qu'il est important de demander à votre Excellence quelles sont ses notions précises là-dessus, et quelle communication elle aurait à faire sur ce point?"

The Undersigned, in compliance with the desire expressed by the Sultan, replies in writing and says, that he is at present equally as ignorant as the Sublime Porte, what will be the opinion of the Allies upon the points stated by the Sublime Porte, and is unable to offer any advice as to the further measures of the Sublime Porte with reference to Mehemet Ali.

The Undersigned expects to receive instructions from his Government in a week or ten days, which will enable him to communicate to the Sublime Porte the feelings and the wishes of the British Government; and until the Undersigned is thereby authorized to speak upon the subject in question, he must beg that the Sublime Porte will excuse his silence.

The Undersigned has, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 261.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received May 17.)

My Lord, *Therapia, April* 21, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a Note I wrote to the Internuncio in consequence of my not having had a reply to my note of the 14th. I have this evening received his Excellency's answer, and I inclose a copy of it.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 261.

Viscount Ponsonby to the Baron de Stürmer.

Monsieur l'Internonce, *Therapia, April* 19, 1841.

ON the 14th instant I had the honour to receive an official note from your Excellency desiring me to inform you if I was disposed to co-operate with your Excellency and our colleagues in carrying into effect the instructions received from our Courts, &c., &c.

I had the honour to reply to your Excellency's note the same day, and after having, at some length, explained what my conduct had been, (being desirous to concur with my colleagues,) I requested your Excellency to have the goodness to inform me in what way your Excellency and our colleagues desired that I should act, in furtherance of the instructions of our Governments.

This is the fifth day since I sent my note, and not having had the honour to hear from you, I take the liberty to express my hope, that your Excellency will favour me with a reply, as it is necessary for me to state to my Government everything connected with this affair.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 261.

Baron de Stürmer to Viscount Ponsonby.

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, *Constantinople,* 21 *Avril,* 1841.

J'AI reçu hier matin la lettre que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'adresser avant-hier.

Le Sultan venant enfin de prendre à l'égard du Pacha d'Egypte des résolutions conformes aux conseils et aux vœux de ses Augustes Alliées, et ces résolutions nous ayant été annoncées hier officiellement, notre tâche, ce me semble, est accomplie. La question que vous voulez bien me faire, M. l'Ambassadeur, sur le genre de co-opération que nous attendions de votre part, nos Collègues de Russie et de Prusse et moi, devient donc sans objet.

Si je n'ai pas répondu à cette même question que renfermait déjà votre lettre du 13 de ce mois, c'est que vous m'y aviez assuré que vous aviez fait tout ce qui avait dépendu de vous, en communiquant à la Porte les actes de la Conférence de Londres et les instructions de Lord Palmerston du 16 Mars, et en lui faisant connaître en même temps le vif désir des Puissances Alliées de voir l'affaire d'Egypte conduite à terme "at any rate." Or, c'était précisément ce que nous voulions proposer à votre Excellence de faire, et il ne nous restait ainsi plus rien à lui demander.

Veuillez, &c.,
(Signé) STURMER.

(Translation.)

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Constantinople, April* 21, 1841.

I RECEIVED yesterday morning the letter which your Excellency did me the honour to address to me the day before yesterday.

The Sultan having at length adopted with regard to the Pasha of Egypt resolutions in conformity with the advice and wishes of his August Allies, and those resolutions having yesterday been announced to us officially, our task, it appears to me, is accomplished. The question which you have the goodness to ask me, M. l'Ambassadeur, as to the kind of co-operation which my colleagues of Russia and Prussia and myself expected from you, becomes therefore unnecessary.

If I have not replied to that same question which was already contained in your letter of the 13th of this month, it is because you had assured me therein that you had done everything which had depended upon you, by communicating to the Porte the acts of the Conference of London and Lord Palmerston's instructions of the 16th of March, and in acquainting it at the same time with the strong desire of the Allied Powers to see the Egyptian affair terminated "at any rate." Now, that was precisely what we wished to propose to your Excellency to do, and there remained nothing more for us to ask you.

Be pleased, &c.,
(Signed) STURMER.

No. 262.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, May* 18, 1841.

I HAVE to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government approve the letter which you addressed to the Internuncio on the 14th of April, of which a copy is inclosed in your despatch of that day, and in which you stated the measures you had taken to prevail upon

the Porte to act upon the suggestions of the Four Powers, with respect to the modifications to be made by the Sultan in the conditions annexed to the grant to Mehemet Ali of the hereditary government of Egypt.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 263.

Lord William Russell to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 24.)

My Lord, *Berlin, May* 19, 1841.

I COMMUNICATED to Baron Werther your Lordship's opinion as to the guarantee of the integrity of the Turkish Empire demanded by the Ottoman Minister at London. His Excellency agreed with your Lordship; but the weakness of the Turkish Government, and the insurrection breaking out at the extremities of the empire, make it doubtful whether a guarantee of integrity may not soon become politic.

Baron Werther likewise approved of your Lordship's opinion as to the time at which it would be expedient that France should affix her signature to the Oriental Convention; at the same time he found your Lordship's view of the present and future position of the European Powers, especially of France in respect to isolation, clear and judicious.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) WM. RUSSELL.

No. 264.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 26.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, April* 28, 1841.

I MADE known to the Minister for Foreign Affairs the opinions your Lordship has expressed upon the various matter and points in the letter of Mehemet Ali to the Grand Vizier. I have heard in reply from Rifaat Pasha, that he will immediately forward to Alexandria the instructions already drawn up for the Ottoman Agent there, and of which a copy was transmitted by me to your Lordship.

No. 265.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 26.)

My Lord, *Therapia, April* 28, 1841.

THE Ministers of Austria, Prussia, and Russia, have desired that the Consuls of the Four Powers should be sent to Alexandria, and the Sublime Porte has consented; I have, therefore, requested Colonel Hodges to hold himself in readiness to accompany his colleagues to Egypt whenever they may be despatched from hence.

I am well aware that the instructions relative to the return of the Consuls to Alexandria, were given before the Conference was in possession of the most material facts which form the case of this country, but I do not think myself authorised to interfere with a measure sanctioned by your Lordship.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 266.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 26.)

My Lord, *Therapia, May* 3, 1841.

DURING a visit made me by M. de Titow this morning I received from Baron de Stürmer a despatch from Prince Metternich, dated 19th April. M. de Titow had been made acquainted with it by the Internuncio, and therefore I was at liberty to read it with him. My opinion was freely given in reply to his demand,—it was, that in furtherance of the views exposed in the despatch, and in your Lordship's instruction of the 10th April, it would be expedient that the Sublime Porte should send to Alexandria the firman containing the concessions the Sultan had made upon the three points: succession, tribute, and military rank; and that a letter should be written by the Grand Vizier, in reply to that received from Mehemet Ali, couched in terms of great civility, and recapitulating the demands made by Mehemet Ali in connection with the conditions *seriatim*, and stating with reference to each, briefly, such reasons as the Sublime Porte might think fit to give why those demands cannot be complied with, and accompanied with the observation on each case, that the demand was in contradiction to the advice given to the Sublime Porte by the Four Powers, the august Allies of the Sultan. By this, a motive which is supposed to have influenced Mehemet Ali, would be counteracted (if it existed), namely, the belief that the Four Powers had withdrawn, or would withdraw, themselves from the question between the Sublime Porte and Mehemet Ali; and also the dignity of the Sultan would be preserved by the declared action of the Four Powers, his Allies, as his advisers.

With relation to the return of the Consuls, which Prince Metternich now desires to defer till after Mehemet Ali shall have proved his submission by conforming to the settlement that may be made between him and the Porte, I said I had always thought the Protocol ordering their return had been made by the Conference in ignorance of the exact state of affairs, and that the return of the Consuls was inexpedient, but that I had yielded to the opinion of my colleagues, who had, in support of it, the letter of that Protocol: I therefore could now only be glad that the Consuls were still here, and that it was not too late to act in conformity with the present views entertained of expediency.

I have taken care to make Rifaat fully acquainted with your Lordship's opinion upon the various propositions or demands made by Mehemet Ali for the annulment or the modification of the conditions attached by the Sultan, in the firman, to the grant of the hereditary government of Egypt to the family of Mehemet Ali; and I have reason to hope and to believe, that what your Lordship has stated on those points is likely to be the rule by which the Sublime Porte will guide itself in any answer that may be made by the Grand Vizier to the letter of Mehemet Ali. I am afraid Mehemet Ali is more likely to continue to resist than to submit, even so as to give a show that the agitation of this question is terminated; and I feel convinced he will never carry into execution any of the conditions, the effect of which is intended to be the diminution of his power.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 267.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 26.)

My Lord, *Therapia, May* 5, 1841.

I HAVE reported to your Lordship the substance of my conversation on the 3rd with M. de Titow, and that he had undertaken to repeat to the Internuncio what had passed. I have this evening received from the

latter his reply to my communication, as follows:—"Monsieur de Titow a eu l'obligeance de me faire part de l'entretien qu'il a eu avec vous relativement au langage que nous devrons tenir à la Sublime Porte, ainsi que du plan que vous proposez à cet égard, et qui consiste:—

1°. A hâter l'expédition du nouveau firman à envoyer à Méhémet Ali.

2°. A veiller à ce que les trois modifications qui nous ont été annoncées dans un Mémorandum de la Porte* comme ayant obtenu la sanction du Sultan, y soient insérées.

3°. A conseiller à la Sublime Porte de faire connaître à Méhémet Ali par une lettre Visirielle les motifs qui l'empêche d'adhérer aux autres changemens qu'il sollicite†, motifs qui découlent de l'Acte Séparé de la Convention du 15 Juillet‡.

"4°. A lui annoncer que les Consuls ne retourneront à leurs postes que lorsque la soumission de Méhémet Ali pourra être considérée comme complétée. Je n'hésite pas de souscrire point par point à ce plan, et vais dès demain y conformer mon langage envers Rifaat Pacha."

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

(Translation of part of the above Despatch.)

M. DE TITOW has had the goodness to acquaint me with the conversation which he has had with you relative to the language which we should hold to the Sublime Porte, and likewise with the plan which you propose in that respect, and which consists:

1°. In hastening the dispatch of the new firman to be sent to Mehemet Ali.

2°. In taking care that the three modifications which were notified to us in a Memorandum from the Porte as having received the sanction of the Sultan, should be inserted therein.

3° In recommending to the Sublime Porte to acquaint Mehemet Ali, in a Vizirial letter, with the motives which prevent it from acceding to the other alterations which he has requested,—motives which are derived from the Separate Act of the Convention of the 15th of July.

4°. In announcing to him that the Consuls will not return to their posts until the submission of Mehemet Ali can be considered as completed. "I do not hesitate concurring point by point in this plan, and I shall from to-morrow conform to it my language towards Rifaat Pasha."

No. 268.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 26.)

My Lord. *Vienna, May* 3, 1841.

IN my despatch of April 22, I stated Prince Metternich's opinions as to the moment at which France ought to convert her paraph into a signature. Having obtained a copy of the Prince's despatch upon the subject to Prince Esterhazy, I have the honour to inclose it to your Lordship.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) BEAUVALE.

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* The Memorandum of the Porte is of the 19th of April.
† I said "those alterations which the Porte would refuse to make."
‡ I added, "and from the Collective Note of 30 January, and Memorandum of 13 March."

Inclosure in No. 268.

Prince Metternich to Prince Esterhazy.

(Extract.) *Vienne, le 23 Avril,* 1841.

LA poste ordinaire de Constantinople m'a apporté les rapports ci-joints de l'Internonce. Ils me donnent l'espoir que la Porte aura adopté les conseils de ses alliés, dès que ceux-ci lui auront été présenté par les Représentans des Quatre Cours. Le 7 Avril, Lord Ponsonby ne s'était pas encore expliqué envers ses collègues ; mais comme la veille il avait envoyé à Londres un courrier, par lequel il annonçait à sa Cour qu'il agirait en conformité de ses instructions, je tire de cette disposition un augure favorable à l'entente entre le Divan et les Puissances.

Je vous envoie également ci-joint deux directions que j'ai adressées à l'Internonce le 19 et le 20 Avril ; elles suffisent pour vous faire connaître exactement notre manière de juger la position.

J'ai reçu le 20, les rapports de Votre Altesse du 10, ainsi qu'une expédition de M. le Comte Appony du 12 de ce mois. Comme cet Ambassadeur n'aura pas manqué de vous instruire directement, mon Prince, des explications qui ont eu lieu entre lui et M. Guizot au sujet de la signature de l'Acte paraphé, il ne me reste qu'à vous faire connaître notre jugement sur l'opportunité de la signature Française.

Nous, pour notre part, ne sommes en aucune manière pressés de voir apposer cette signature à un Acte à la teneur duquel le Cabinet Français est déjà lié par son paraphe. Nous trouverions même plus d'inconvénient que d'avantage à ce que la Convention fût signée avant que l'accord entre les Quatre Cours et la Porte ne soit définitivement établi, et cela par la raison que, si l'établissement de cet accord a jusqu'à cette heure rencontré des difficultés entre les Quatre Cours et le Divan, l'adjonction d'une cinquième Cour, au lieu de faciliter la tâche, ne pourrait que la rendre plus difficile.

Aussi, pénétrés comme nous le sommes, de cette conviction, ne nous avez-vous jamais vus presser la signature du Cabinet Français, mais bien la fin du différend Turco-Egyptien. Il est évident que la signature de la Convention relative à la clôture des détroits n'a rien qui soit en rapport direct avec l'affaire Turco-Egyptienne. Je vous prie, mon Prince, ainsi que M. le Baron de Neumann, de ne point vous tromper à cet égard. Il s'agit ici de deux affaires distinctes de leur nature, et qui n'ont ensemble d'autre connexité que celle du point d'arrivée où elles se rencontreront tout naturellement. Confondre ces affaires ce serait ouvrir la porte à plus d'un danger, et notre habitude n'est par d'en créer à plaisir.

Ce qui est vraiment important, ce vers quoi ont dès lors tendu nos constans efforts, c'est que l'affaire Turco-Egyptienne soit conduite à sa fin dans les termes de la Convention du 15 Juillet. Nous désirons ceci, parce qu'il entre dans notre marche habituelle de vider les affaires dans lesquelles nous sommes engagés, convaincus que, quand le terme d'une affaire n'est par clairement marqué, il en nait forcément des affaires nouvelles et qui sont placées en dehors de tout calcul possible. Afin que nos Plénipotentiaires à Londres puissent saisir toute notre pensée à l'égard de ce que nous croyons désirable dans la présente position des choses, je vais résumer cette pensée dans les points suivans, que je m'appliquerai à bien préciser.

1°. Nous reconnaissons l'existence de deux affaires distinctes de leur nature, mais se confondant dans leurs points d'arrivée.

L'une de ces affaires, c'est le résidu encore existant de la Question Turco-Egyptienne. Elle est placée entre les Quatre Cours et la Porte, et ses limites sont tracées par les Actes de 15 Juillet, de 14 Novembre et 17 Décembre 1840, par la Note Collective du 30 Janvier, et les Arrêtés du 5 Mars, 1841. L'autre affaire, c'est la signature de la Convention relative à la clôture des détroits, qui doit s'effectuer entre les Cinq Cours et le Divan.

2°. Les deux affaires ne doivent point être confondues l'une avec l'autre, attendu qu'elles diffèrent dans leur essence. Vu son isolement volontaire du Traité du 15 Juillet et de ses conséquences immédiates, le

Gouvernment Français n'a point à intervenir dans l'Affaire Turco-Egyptienne proprement dite. Lui-même n'en a pas le désir, et s'il en était autrement, nous y verrions un grave inconvénient. La répugnance du Cabinet Français ne repose pas, dans la présente occasion, sur un calcul politique actif; elle provient du sentiment, qu'en entrant dans l'affaire aujourd'hui, il s'engagerait dans une position insoutenable pour l'administration actuelle. Le Cabinet actuel est sage, en un mot, parce qu'il lui serait impossible de ne pas l'être, et cette position gênée tournera, à notre avis, à l'avantage des Quatre Cours et de la Porte, si elles savent conduire à bon terme l'entreprise du 15 Juillet; mais cette même position ne pourra que tourner à leur désavantage, si elles ne savent point atteindre le but qu'elles se sont proposé à la face de l'Europe, et au soutien duquel elles ont voué des efforts couronnés de si éclatans succès matériels!

3°. Le concours de la France dans l'affaire des détroits n'a, par lui-même, guère d'autre valeur que celle d'un complément de la grande œuvre du 15 Juillet. Ce concours présente toutefois le seul mode pour délivrer la France (à son profit comme à celui de l'Europe) de son isolement. Telle étant la vérité à l'égard de la signature de la Convention relative à la clôture des détroits, qu'y a-t-il de commun entre cette affaire et le règlement définitif des attitudes respectives du Sultan et du Pacha d'Egypte? Il est clair que la connexité entre les deux questions ne peut s'établir qu'à l'issue de l'Affaire Turco-Egyptienne. C'est donc cette affaire qu'il faut finir avant de passer à la signature avec la France. Marcher différemment ce serait créer un embarras, dont le moindre inconvénient ne serait pas celui d'enchevêtrer les positions de manière à ce que personne ne trouverait plus moyen de se reconnaître; l'honneur des Quatre Cours serait, à notre avis, compromis, parce qu'alors elles auraient l'air de ne point avoir pu conduire à terme une entreprise dont elles se sont chargées à la face de l'Europe.

4°. Après avoir ainsi séparé d'une manière distincte les objets en instance, et les avoir classés selon leur ordre naturel, nous assignons la première place dans l'action des Quatre Cours, à la terminaison de l'Affaire Turco-Egyptienne, et la seconde à la signature de la Convention entre les Cinq Cours d'une part et la Porte de l'autre part. Ce qu'on fera pour hâter la conclusion de la première de ces affaires servira aussi à rapprocher celle de la seconde. Renverser cet ordre logique des choses, ce serait commettre une faute et s'exposer à toutes les conséquences qu'elle entraînerait.

Il me reste encore à exposer ici notre sentiment sur le moment le plus opportun pour provoquer la signature de la France, et voici ce que nous pensons à cet égard:

Les Quatre Cours viennent de faire une démarche serrée à Constantinople, pour engager le Divan à prescrire à Méhémet Ali des conditions que les Quatre Cours jugent les plus rationnelles, et cela dans l'intérêt même de la Porte, comme aussi parce que ces conditions sont les plus conformes aux stipulations du 15 Juillet. La Porte devra prendre un parti à l'égard des plus récentes manifestations des Puissances ses alliées; et ce parti sera—je le regarde comme certain—conforme à leurs vœux.

Quand la réponse affirmative du Divan sera arrivée à la connaissance des Cours, alors elles feront bien d'insister, sans attendre la réponse du Pacha d'Egypte, sur la signature de l'Acte relatif à la clôture des détroits. Nous fondons ce sentiment sur le principe, que les Quatre Cours n'ont d'arrangemens à prendre qu'avec la Porte et non avec Méhémet Ali, lequel n'a, à leurs yeux, d'autre existence que celle d'un sujet du Sultan. Le jour donc où les parties principales se seront définitivement entendues entre elles, l'affaire sera arrivée à sa fin. Si Méhémet Ali devait ne pas obéir à son Souverain, ce serait alors lui qui commencerait une affaire nouvelle, et cette affaire pourrait être traitée, comme toutes les affaires, sous l'égide de la liberté du mouvement des Cours. Quant à la ligne de pensées et de conduite que la nôtre suivrait dans cette hypothèse, je n'ai pas besoin de vous la développer. Elle sera conforme aux principes qui servent invariablement de guide à notre politique; ces principes, dont les deux dernières années ont offert de nouvelles preuves, ne peuvent être mis en doute nulle part.

Recevez, &c.,

(Signé) METTERNICH.

(Translation.)

Vienna, April 23, 1841.

THE ordinary post from Constantinople has brought me the annexed reports from the Internuncio. They cause me to hope that the Porte will have adopted the advice of its Allies, as soon as that shall have been offered to it by the Representatives of the Four Courts. On the 7th of April, Lord Ponsonby had not yet explained himself towards his Colleagues; but as he had the day before sent a messenger to London, by whom he announced to his Court that he would act in conformity with his instructions, I deduce from this disposition a favourable omen for an understanding between the Divan and the Powers.

I likewise send you annexed two instructions which I addressed to the Internuncio on the 19th and 20th of April; they are sufficient to acquaint you exactly with our way of judging of the present state of affairs.

I received on the 20th your Highness's reports of the 10th, as well as a despatch from Count Appony of the 12th of this month. As that Ambassador will not have failed to apprize you directly, Mon Prince, of the explanations which have taken place between him and M. Guizot on the subject of the signature of the initialed Act, it only remains for me to acquaint you with our opinion as to the season for the French signature.

We, for our part, are in no wise in a hurry to see that signature affixed to an Act, to the tenour of which the French Cabinet is already bound by having initialed it. We should even find it more inconvenient than advantageous that the Convention should be signed before the agreement between the Four Powers and the Porte was definitively settled, and that for the reason, that if the settlement of this agreement has up to the present time met with difficulties as between the Four Courts and the Divan, the junction of a Fifth Court, instead of facilitating the task, could only render it more difficult.

Thus, impressed as we are with this conviction, you have never seen us press for the signature of the French Cabinet, but rather for the termination of the Turco-Egyptian quarrel. It is evident that the signature of the Convention relative to the closing of the Straits, has no direct bearing on the Turco-Egyptian business. I request you, Mon Prince, as also the Baron de Neumann, not to deceive yourselves in this respect. It is a question of two affairs distinct in their nature, and which have no other connection than that of the point at which they will very naturally meet together. By confounding these affairs a door would be opened to more than one danger, and it is not our habit to create dangers for amusement.

That which is truly of importance, and to which therefore our constant efforts have been directed, is, that the Turco-Egyptian Affair should be brought to its end within the terms of the Convention of the 15th of July. We desire that, because it is consistent with our habitual course of proceeding to conclude the affairs in which we are engaged, being convinced that when the conclusion of an affair is not clearly marked, new affairs result from it which are beyond the reach of any possible calculation. In order that our Plenipotentiaries in London may comprehend our whole meaning with regard to what we consider desirable in the present state of things, I will briefly state that meaning in the following points which I will endeavour clearly to define:—

1°. We admit the existence of two affairs, distinct in their nature, but blending themselves together at the point at which they arrive.

One of these affairs is what still remains of the Turco-Egyptian Question. It is placed between the Four Courts and the Porte, and its limits are marked out by the Acts of the 15th of July, of the 14th of November, and 17th of December, 1840, by the Collective Note of the 30th of January, and the decisions of the 5th of March, 1841. The other affair is the signature of the Convention relative to the closing of the Straits, which is to be effected between the Five Courts and the Divan.

2°. The two affairs should not be confounded with each other, seeing that they are essentially different. In consequence of its voluntary isolation from the Treaty of July 15 and from its immediate results, the French

Government has not to interpose in the Turco-Egyptian Affair properly so called. It does not even desire to do so; and if the case were otherwise, we should see a serious inconvenience in its doing so. The repugnance of the French Cabinet does not rest, in the present occasion, on an active political calculation; it results from the feeling that by entering into the affair at the present time, it would involve itself in a position which could not be sustained by the existing administration. The present Cabinet is prudent, in a word, because it would be impossible for it not to be so; and this constrained position will, in our opinion, prove advantageous to the Four Powers and to the Porte, if they know how to bring to a successful issue the undertaking of the 15th of July; but this same position cannot but turn out to their disadvantage, if they know not how to attain the object which they have proposed to themselves in the face of Europe, and for the support of which they have employed efforts which have been crowned with such distinguished real success.

3°. The concurrence of France in the matter of the Straits has, in itself, scarcely any other value than that of being the completion of the grand work of the 15th of July. That concurrence offers, however, the only mode of extricating France (to her advantage as well as to that of Europe) from her isolation. Such being the truth with regard to the signature of the Convention relative to the closing of the Straits, what is there in common between this affair and the definitive settlement of the respective attitudes of the Sultan and of the Pasha of Egypt? It is clear that a connection cannot be established between the two questions, except at the close of the Turco-Egyptian affair. It is then this affair which must be finished before proceeding to the signature with France. To take a different course would be to occasion an embarrassment, of which the least inconvenience would not be that of entangling the positions in such a manner as that no one would have the means of knowing where he was: the honour of the Four Courts would, in our opinion, be compromised, because in that case they would have the appearance of having been unable to bring to an end an enterprize which they undertook in the face of Europe.

4°. After having thus distinctly separated the objects in question, and having classed them according to their natural order, we assign the first place in the action of the Four Courts to the conclusion of the Turco-Egyptian affair, and the second to the signature of the Convention between the Five Courts on the one part, and the Porte on the other part. What shall be done to hasten the conclusion of the first of these affairs, will serve also to bring on that of the second. To invert this logical order of things, would be to commit a fault, and to expose ourselves to all the consequences which it would entail.

It still remains for me to explain in this place our opinion as to the most seasonable moment for calling for the signature of France, and this is what we think in that respect:—

The Four Courts have just taken a decided step at Constantinople in order to induce the Divan to prescribe to Mehemet conditions which the Four Courts consider the most reasonable, and that even in the interest of the Porte, as also because those conditions are the most in conformity with the stipulations of the 15th of July. The Porte will have to take a course with regard to the most recent manifestations of the Powers its allies; and that course will be, I consider it certain, conformable to their wishes.

When the answer of the Divan in the affirmative shall have come to the knowledge of the Courts, then they will do well, without waiting for the answer of the Pasha of Egypt, to insist upon the signature of the Act relative to the closing of the Straits. We rest this opinion upon the principle that the Four Courts have to make arrangements only with the Porte, and not with Mehemet Ali, who in their view, has no other existence than that of a subject of the Sultan. On the day, therefore, on which the principal parties shall have come to a definitive understanding among themselves, the affair will have reached its termination. If Mehemet Ali should not obey his Sovereign, he would then be the person who would commence a new affair, and that affair might be dealt with, as all affairs,

under the safeguard of the freedom of action of the Courts. As to the line of opinion and of conduct which our Court would in that contingency pursue, I have no need to explain it to you. It will be in conformity with the principles which invariably guide our policy; those principles whereof the two last years have afforded fresh proofs can nowhere be the subject of doubt.

No. 269.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 26.)

My Lord, *Vienna, May* 3, 1841.

BOGHOS BEY has addressed a letter to Marshal Marmont, expressing a wish on the part of Mehemet Ali to be made acquainted with the opinions of Prince Metternich upon his (the Pasha's) position.

This letter having been shown to the Prince, he has written one to the Marshal containing the required exposition of them, and has furnished me with a copy of it for communication to your Lordship. This I have the honour to inclose.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) BEAUVALE.

Inclosure in No. 269.

Prince Metternich to Marshal Marmont.

Mon cher Maréchal, *Vienne, le* 27 *Avril*, 1841.

JE vous remercie de la lecture que vous m'avez permis de prendre de la lettre de Boghos Bey. Je vous dirai franchement ce que j'en pense.

L'année dernière a porté de grandes leçons à Méhémet Ali, et elles devraient lui marquer la ligne qu'il doit suivre. Il parait qu'il n'en a pas encore tiré ce profit, car la lettre de Boghos Joussouf est entachée d'idées politiques, et c'est tout juste la politique qui est l'élément que doit fuir Méhémet Ali. L'Europe veut une Egypte province de l'Empire Ottoman, et non une Egypte formant, sous le masque de la soumission, un Etat indépendant et agissant comme un dissolvant sur cet Empire. La clé de l'énigme est là et la chercher autre part c'est se tromper. Ce que Méhémet Ali a désiré, il l'a obtenu. L'hérédité dans le Pachalic a été accordée à sa famille. Ce que certaines conditions du firman d'investiture ont renfermé de peu pratique sera réformé, car la Porte est intéressée à ce que des embarras ne surgissent à toute heure entre elle et les Pachas d'Egypte. Les Puissances de l'Europe ont le même intérêt, et le sens commun me dit qu'il est également celui de la famille de Méhémet Ali. La question n'est pas dans tel ou tel détail, mais elle se trouve dans l'ensemble de la position. Si Méhémet Ali veut ce qu'admet la Porte et ce qu'avec elle ont admis les Puissances; s'il veut que sa famille soit investie de l'hérédité dans le gouvernement d'une province Ottomane; il peut se dire qu'il a atteint son but. S'il veut une situation indépendante, s'il vise à établir la souveraineté dans sa famille, alors il se trouve en opposition non seulement avec la Porte, mais avec l'Europe entière, et lui et sa succession périront dans l'enterprise.

Voilà ce que je pense de la position, et ce que j'en pense est assis sur de la très-saine pratique.

Mille sincères hommages.

(Signé) METTERNICH.

(Translation.)

My Dear Marshal, *Vienna, April* 27, 1841.

I THANK you for having allowed me to read the letter of Boghos Bey. I will tell you frankly what I think of it.

The last year has given great lessons to Mehemet Ali, and they ought to indicate to him the course which he should follow. It appears that he has not yet profited by them; and the letter of Boghos Youssouf is tainted with political notions, and politics are just the very thing which Mehemet Ali ought to avoid. Europe wishes for an Egypt, a province of the Ottoman Empire, and not for an Egypt forming, under the mask of submission, an independent State, and thus acting as a solvent upon that Empire. The key of the enigma is there, and it is a mistake to look for it elsewhere. What Mehemet Ali has desired, he has obtained. The hereditary succession in the Pashalic has been granted to his family. That which is contained in certain conditions of the firman of investiture of a nature little practical will be amended; for the Porte is interested that embarrassments should not continually rise up between it and the Pashas of Egypt. The Powers of Europe have the same interest, and common sense tells me that it is equally the interest of Mehemet Ali's family. The question does not consist in this or that detail, but in the whole position taken together. If Mehemet Ali desires what the Porte assents to, and what the Powers have equally assented to, if he wishes that his family should be invested with the hereditary succession in the Government of a Turkish province, he may say that he has attained his object. If he desires an independent position, if he aims at establishing Sovereignty in his family, then he is in a state of opposition not only to the Porte, but to the whole of Europe, and he and his succession will perish in the enterprize.

This is my opinion of the state of things, and my opinion of it rests on what is soundest in practice.

A thousand sincere respects,
(Signed) METTERNICH.

No. 270.

Lord Beauvale to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 26.)

My Lord, *Vienna, May* 19, 1841.

PRINCE Metternich highly approves of the answer to Chekib Effendi, as well as of the instruction to Lord Ponsonby of the 11th of May; and he sends orders to Baron Stürmer, by the present occasion, to conform his conduct thereto.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) BEAUVALE.

No. 271.

The Marquess of Clanricarde to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 28.)

(Extract.) *St. Petersburgh, May* 14, 1841.

YESTERDAY I had audiences to take leave of their Imperial Majesties, and of other Members of the Imperial Family.

With the Emperor I had the honour of a long conversation, during the whole course of which, His Imperial Majesty evinced the same good will and cordiality towards Her Majesty's Government that it has been my duty to report to your Lordship on former occasions.

After renewing the expression of His Majesty's personal sentiments towards the Queen, and of his friendly feelings towards England, the Emperor dismissed me in the most kind and flattering manner.

No. 272.

Mr. Bulwer to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received May* 30.)

(Extract.) *Paris, May* 28, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatches to the 25th of May.

M. Guizot read to me this morning a despatch from M. de Bourqueney, in which that gentleman stated, that he had informed your Lordship that his Government would be now ready to give him the powers for signing the Convention of March, on your Lordship's affirming to him that you considered the Treaty of July was abrogated by the Porte's recent Memorandum; and that your Lordship had thereupon, with great frankness, replied, "that you deemed yourself under such circumstances bound to say to M. de Bourqueney, that, though you confidently expected that the firman founded upon the memorandum alluded to would be accepted by Mehemet Ali, and, consequently, that the Treaty in question would thus be at an end, you would not take upon yourself, without having received Mehemet's answer, to say that it was so:"—"Under which circumstances," said M. de Bourqueney, "I could only observe, in compliance with all my instructions, that until the Alliance created by the Treaty of July was dissolved, France could not be a party to the Convention of March, which, in fact, was intended to be a document signed by the Five Powers, in order to show that the Four Powers were no longer acting by themselves."

"I have no remark to make on this," said M. Guizot, "for my own part, except to thank Lord Palmerston for the frankness and loyalty of his communication; but I wish you to observe that it is not I who now refuse to sign the Additional Treaty on the plea that Mehemet Ali may not consent to the firman (the conditions contained in which I consider reasonable); the objection and the delay proceed from the Government of Great Britain. I hope that this will not encourage Mehemet Ali, or lead him to think, that by refusing the terms proposed to him he may create dissensions amongst the European Powers, and great care must be taken that this is not the case.

"As for myself, I shall write this day to M. de Chabot, telling him what has occurred for his own information, but warning him that he is not to communicate it to Mehemet Ali, but to tell him simply that France urges him in the strongest manner to accept the Sultan's propositions, and cannot afford him any protection or support of any kind, if he does not."

I observed to M. Guizot, after stating how much I was satisfied by his last-mentioned communication, that though some risk might possibly arise from the Viceroy's imagining that the Five Powers were not agreed as to the firman, their names not immediately appearing to the document which was to be the signal of their union, I could yet see another difficulty in the opposite case: for, supposing that Mehemet were told that the Alliance of July was broken up, at the same time that the Sultan's offers were made to him, might he not say to himself, (if these offers were disagreeable to him,) "all power of compelling me to be reasonable is at an end?" and might he not, consequently, refuse these offers; and what then was to occur? No one could say that the objects contemplated by the Treaty of July were attained, and yet the Treaty of July would be over.

M. Guizot admitted the truth of this, and said that there were undoubtedly difficulties both ways; and that, for his own part, he was in no hurry about the matter, but was only anxious to have it clearly understood, that he had fulfilled his pledge when he said that whenever France thought that the terms offered to the Pasha were just and reasonable, she should never wait for his consent or opinion in order to declare them so. I then asked M. Guizot whether he feared that any difficulty would arise on the part of Mehemet Ali as to the application of the general laws of the Ottoman Empire to Egypt, and he said, "No; the only

difficulty he foresaw regarded the tribute; that he had always hitherto understood that this was to be left as a matter to be debated between the Sultan and his vassal, but that he now heard that the firman was to contain a specified sum; and he feared that if this sum were extravagant, the Pasha would not consent to pay it."

No. 273.

Viscount Palmerston to Lord Beauvale.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, June* 2, 1841.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 3rd ultimo, and copy of the very excellent letter which Prince Metternich has addressed to Marshal Marmont on the position of Mehemet Ali. That letter describes accurately, logically, and in a few words, the real position of Mehemet Ali, and cannot fail to have a powerful effect on his conduct.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 274.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received June* 4.)

My Lord, *Therapia, May* 11, 1841.

THE Minister for Foreign Affairs has expressed his satisfaction with the plan proposed by the Representatives of the Four Powers for the conduct of the affairs with Mehemet Ali; but the firman and vizirial letter have not yet been communicated to me, and I believe are not yet fully prepared.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 275.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received June* 4.)

My Lord, *Therapia, May* 12, 1841.

I HAVE this day been informed by the dragoman, that he thinks Rifaat Pasha has the intention to delay the confidential communication to the Representatives of the new firman about Mehemet Ali, until the Porte shall have again heard from Chekib Effendi.

The dragoman says he has reminded Rifaat Pasha of the advice I gave the Sublime Porte to issue the firman without delay, &c.

I have this day instructed the dragoman to tell Rifaat Pasha, that if any delay take place in the above matter, I shall think it necessary to call upon my colleagues officially for their concurrence and support in making an inquiry at the Sublime Porte what may be the reasons of the delay of the firman, &c., in order that we may be enabled to acquaint our Governments with the cause assigned for it by the Sublime Porte.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 276.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received June* 12.)

My Lord, *Therapia, May* 17, 1841.

I HAVE received information from Mr. Chasseaud, the British Vice-Consul at Alexandria, that Mehemet Ali has given orders for building two new ships of the line.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 277.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received June* 12.)

My Lord, *Therapia, May* 22, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of my reply to Rifaat Pasha, when he first communicated to me the new firman and requested me to give my approbation of it in writing. Your Lordship will observe, that I confined myself to an approval of the three points,—Succession, Tribute, and Military Rank;—points upon which the Four Powers have spoken decidedly.

I inclose also copy of the answer made by the Internuncio on the same occasion.

I understand that the Russian and Prussian Ministers have sent similar answers, but I have not a copy.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 277.

Viscount Ponsonby to Mr. F. Pisani,

Sir, *Therapia, May* 18, 1841.

YOU will thank his Excellency Rifaat Pasha for the communication of the *projet* for a new firman intended by the Sublime Porte to be addressed to the Pasha of Egypt, and you will tell him I am happy to see therein, that the Sublime Porte has acceded to the wishes expressed by the August Allies of the Sultan, and has made the modifications in the regulations concerning the Succession, the Tribute, and Military Rank.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 277.

Baron de Stürmer to the Baron de Testa.

(Extrait.) 19 *Mai*, 1841.

J'AI lu avec la plus scrupuleuse attention le projet du nouveau firman que la Sublime Porte se propose d'adresser au Pacha d'Egypte et sur lequel Son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères voudrait connaître mon opinion. Les modifications sur le réglement de la Succession, du Tribut, et des Avancemens Militaires, s'y trouvant insérées telles qu'elles avaient été proposées par les Cours Alliées, je ne doute pas qu'il ne soit accueilli par elles avec une bien vive satisfaction.

Quant aux autres points du firman, qui tous sont du ressort de l'administration intérieure de la Sublime Porte, il appartient à l'autorité de Sa Hautesse seule de les régler à son gré et de prendre en considération ou non les vœux que Méhémet Ali a soumis à ce sujet à sa décision.

(Translation.)

May 19, 1841.

I HAVE read with scrupulous attention the draft of the new firman which the Sublime Porte proposes to address to the Pasha of Egypt, and on which his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs would wish to know my opinion. The modifications as to the regulation of the succession, of the tribute, and of the military promotions, being inserted therein, such as they had been proposed by the Allied Courts, I doubt not that it will be received by them with very lively satisfaction.

With regard to the other points of the firman, which are all connected with the internal administration of the Sublime Porte, it appertains to the authority of His Highness alone to regulate them at his pleasure, and to take into consideration or not the wishes which Mehemet Ali has on that matter submitted to his decision.

No. 278.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 12.)

(Extract.) *Therapia, May* 22, 1841.

I HAVE to acquaint your Lordship that my Colleagues did not mean to approve of my plan which is reported in my despatch of May 3, and that the answers I received from them were not intended to express the meaning which they appeared to me to convey; but they continued to be of opinion, that the Sublime Porte ought to answer Mehemet Ali's letter by a firman; I found that the Ottoman Ministers were of the same opinion, and I therefore determined to cease to press the adoption of my views at the Conference fixed for this day, and I acted accordingly.

The Conference met, composed of the Four Representatives, the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Seraskier, and Riza Pasha; the new firman was read, and some inquiries made to ascertain the sense of some passages; after which his Excellency Rifaat Pasha requested the Representatives to declare their approbation of the firman in writing.

The Representatives were of opinion that not being the authors of the firman, they ought not to assume so great a responsibility, but they consented to say in writing, that they found nothing in it to object to, and a paper was signed by us all to that effect, a copy of which I inclose. I objected to nothing, because the Sublime Porte is acknowledged to be the proper and only authority to determine the nature and extent of the restrictions to be imposed upon the powers of the Pasha of Egypt.

I think your Lordship will see in what has been done by the Porte a proof of the desire by which it is animated to gratify the wishes of the Sultan's Allies. The Porte seems to me to have done more than it was advised by the Great Powers to do, in the way of concession, and, in so far as the Porte is a party, the question with Mehemet Ali may be considered as settled.

The firman will be sent to Alexandria immediately, accompanied by a letter from the Grand Vizier, explanatory (as I am told) of the conduct of the Sublime Porte.

I inclose a copy of the firman hastily made, and which may have in it some slight inaccuracies. I will forward an authenticated copy without delay.

Inclosure 1 in No. 278.

Note signed by the Representatives of the Four Powers regarding the new Firman.

NOUS Soussignés, Représentans des Quatre Puissances Alliées de la Sublime Porte, déclarons à sa demande expresse, qu'ayant pris con-

naissance de nouveau du projet du firman d'investiture à envoyer au Pacha d'Egypte, Méhémet Ali Pacha, nous n'y avons rien trouvé qui nous ait paru devoir donner lieu à une objection quelconque de notre part, et qu'il ne nous reste plus, en conséquence, rien à lui demander si ce n'est qu'elle fasse parvenir ce firman à son adresse le plus promptement possible.

Fait à Emirghian, à l'hôtel de son Excellence Monsieur le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de la Sublime Porte, Méhémed Rifaat Pacha, ce 22 Mai, 1841.

(Signé) STURMER.
PONSONBY.
KŒNIGSMARK.
TITOW.

(Translation.)

WE, the Undersigned, Representatives of the Four Powers, Allies of the Sublime Porte, declare at its express demand that, having again taken into consideration the draft of the firman of investiture to be sent to the Pasha of Egypt, Mehemet Ali Pasha, we have not found therein anything which it has appeared to us ought to give occasion for any objection whatever on our part, and that there does not remain, in consequence, anything for us to ask of it, except that it should forward this firman to its address as quickly as possible.

Done at Emirghian, at the house of his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Sublime Porte, Mehemed Rifaat Pasha, the 22nd of May, 1841.

(Signed) STURMER,
PONSONBY,
KŒNIGSMARK,
TITOW.

Inclosure 2 in No. 278.

Firman du 13 *Février*, 1841*. *Nouveau Firman.*

(Traduction.)

L'ACTE de soumission que tu viens de faire, les assurances de fidélité et de dévouement que tu as données, et les intentions droites et sincères que tu as manifestées tant à mon égard que dans les intérêts de ma Sublime Porte, sont parvenues à ma connaissance souveraine et m'ont été fort agréables.

En conséquence, et le zèle et la sagacité qui te caractérisent, ainsi que l'expérience et les connaissances que tu as acquises dans les affaires de l'Egypte pendant le long espace de tems que tu as occupé le poste de Gouverneur de l'Egypte, donnant lieu à croire que tu auras acquis des droits à la faveur et à la confiance que je t'accorde, c'est-à-dire, que tu en connaîtras toute la portée et toute la reconnaissance que tu devras en avoir, que tu t'appliqueras à faire en sorte que ces dispositions

* Tout ce qui n'est pas souligné dans ce firman se trouve dans le nouveau firman, et tout ce qui est souligné est changé ou supprimé ou modifié dans le nouveau firman.

passent à tes fils et à tes neveux, je t'accorde le gouvernement de l'Egypte dans ses anciennes limites telles qu'on les trouve dans la carte qui t'est envoyée par mon Grand Vizir actuellement en fonctions, munie d'un cachet, avec le privilège additionnel de l'hérédité et avec les conditions suivantes :

Désormais, quand le poste sera vacant, *le gouvernement de l'Egypte sera conféré à celui de tes enfans mâles existans que j'aurais préféré et élu, et ce systême sera observé également à l'égard de ses enfans mâles.*

le gouvernement de l'Egypte écherra en ligne droite, de l'aîné à l'aîné, dans la race masculine parmi les fils et les petits-fils. Quant à leur nomination, elle se fera de la part de ma Sublime Porte.

Si jamais le destin voudra que la ligne masculine soit éteinte, comme dans ce cas ma Sublime Porte devra conférer le gouvernement de l'Egypte à une autre personne, les enfans mâles nés des filles des Gouverneurs de l'Egypte n'auront aucun droit, aucune capacité légale à la succession au Gouvernement.

Dorénavant, celui d'entre tes enfans qui sera élu au gouvernement de l'Egypte devra se rendre en personne à Constantinople pour y recevoir l'investiture de son poste.

Bien que les Pachas d'Egypte ayent obtenu le privilège de l'hérédité, ils doivent cependant être considérés, quant à la préséance, comme étant sur un pied d'égalité avec les autres Vizirs, ils seront traités comme les autres Vizirs de ma Sublime Porte, et recevront les mêmes titres que l'on donne aux autres Vizirs quand on leur écrit.

Les ordonnances utiles proclamées par mon Hatti Shériff Impérial de Gulhané, tous les réglemens faits et à faire par ma Sublime Porte, tous les traités conclus et à conclure entre ma Sublime Porte et les Puissances amies, seront complètement mis à exécution dans la Province de l'Egypte aussi ;

Les principes fondés sur les lois de la sûreté de la vie, de la sûreté de la propriété, et de la conservation de l'honneur, principes consacrés par les ordonnances salutaires de mon Hatti Shériff de Gulhané ;

et tous les réglemens faits et à faire par ma Sublime Porte seront aussi mis en pratique en Egypte, en les conciliant le mieux qu'on pourra avec les circonstances locales et les principes de la justice et de l'équité.

En Egypte, tous les impôts, tous les revenus, seront perçus et recueillis en mon nom souverain; attendu cependant que les Egyptiens aussi sont les sujets de ma Sublime Porte, et afin qu'un jour ils ne soient pas vexés, la dîme, les droits, et les autres impôts qui seront perçus, le seront *sur les mêmes règles qui seront en vigueur dans les autres pays de ma Sublime Porte.*

conformément au systême équitable adopté par ma Sublime Porte, et l'on prendra soin de payer, dès que le temps du payement sera venu, sur les droits de douane, sur la capitation, sur les dîmes, sur les revenus et les autres produits de la Province de l'Egypte, le tribut annuel dont le quantum est inséré

Sur le montant annuel des droits de douane, de la dîme, des impôts, et de toutes les autres espèces de revenus, on en prélévera d'abord, c'est-à-dire, sans défalquer aucune dépense, la quatrième partie pour compte de ma Sublime Porte.

Les autres trois quarts sont laissés afin qu'ils servent à faire face aux frais du recouvrement, à ceux de l'administration intérieure, des établissemens militaires, et pour le trésor particulier des Pachas d'Egypte, et pour le payement des vivres qu'il est d'usage d'envoyer tous les ans en nature de l'Egypte aux deux Villes Saintes.

Le quantum du tribut qui revient à ma Sublime Porte et le mode de la perception, sont exécutoires l'espace de cinq ans, à commencer de l'année 1257 (*Février*, 1841), *après cela, il sera loisible de faire à cet égard de meilleurs arrangemens d'après l'état futur de l'Egypte et les exigences des temps; considérant que c'est un devoir pour ma Sublime Porte de connaître au juste le montant réel des revenus annuels et le mode de perception des dîmes et des autres impôts à prendre des habitans, et attendu que cette connaissance ne peut guère s'obtenir que par l'établissement d'un contrôle, on prendra des mesures conformes aux ordres que je donnerai à cet egard.*

Comme ma Sublime Porte a pris la résolution d'améliorer la monnaie, qui est l'âme des opérations de la société, et de le faire de manière à ce que désormais il ne puisse y avoir de la variation ni dans l'aloi, ni dans le prix, je permets que l'on batte monnaie en Egypte; mais les monnaies en or et en argent que je te permets de battre, porteront mon nom, et seront tout à fait semblables, sous les rapports du titre, des prix et de la forme, à celles que l'on frappe ici.

En temps de paix, 18,000 hommes suffiront pour le service intérieur de la province de l'Egypte; il ne sera pas permis d'en augmenter le nombre. Mais vû que les troupes de terre et de mer de l'Egypte sont instituées pour le service de ma Sublime Porte, il sera permis, en temps de guerre, de les porter au nombre qui aura été jugé convenable par ma Sublime Porte.

On a adopté le principe que les soldats employés dans les autres parties de mes états serviront pendant cinq ans, au bout duquel terme ils seront échangés contre des recrues. *Cela étant, il faut qu'à cet égard l'on suive le même système en Egypte aussi. Par conséquent, il faudra former des soldats le plus récemment incorporés et pris dans les corps des troupes Egyptiennes* 20,000 *hommes, auxquels on appliquera ensuite le principe* et précisé dans un autre firman Impérial.

Etant d'usage d'envoyer tous les ans de l'Egypte des vivres en nature aux deux Villes Saintes, on continuera à envoyer à chaque endroit séparément les vivres et les autres objets, quels qu'ils puissent être, qui y ont été envoyés jusqu'à présent.

Cela étant, il faudrait, qu'à cet égard l'on suivît le même système en Egypte aussi. Mais par rapport à la durée du service, on s'adaptera aux dispositions des habitans, en observant à leur égard ce que l'équité exige.

du temps de service à compter du jour qu'ils y ont été admis. De ce corps 18,000 *hommes seront employés au service intérieur de l'Egypte, et les* 2,000 *hommes seront employés ici. Et comme la cinquième partie de ces* 20,000 *hommes devra être remplacée tous les ans, on prendra chaque année sur la population de l'Egypte, en tirant légalement au sort, en s'y prenant mon humanité, et en y observant la plus parfaite impartialité,* 4000 *hommes, dont* 3600 *hommes seront retenus en Egypte, et les* 400 *envoyés à Constantinople. Les soldats qui auront été les premiers à entrer au service, soit ici soit là, et qui auront accompli leur cinquième année de service, seront renvoyés à leurs pays respectifs, et ceux qui auront une fois accompli le terme de service, ne seront plus enrôlés.*

Il sera envoyé chaque année à Constantinople 400 hommes pour remplacer d'autres.

Il peut y avoir une différence, à cause du climat, dans l'étoffe servant à l'habillement des troupes en Egypte, mais il ne doit en avoir aucune ni dans l'uniforme, ni dans la coupe des habits, ni dans les marques distinctives des grades, ni dans les drapeaux, entre ces troupes là et les autres troupes de ma Sublime Porte.

Il n'y aura aucune différence entre les marques distinctives et les drapeaux des troupes qui seront employés là et les marques distinctives et les drapeaux des autres troupes de ma Sublime Porte. Les officiers de marine Egyptienne auront les mêmes marques distinctives de grades, et les Egyptiens auront les mêmes pavillons que les officiers et les bâtimens d'ici.

Les troupes à employer sur les vaisseaux Egyptiens, officiers et soldats, auront tout-à-fait le même habillement et les mêmes marques distinctives de leurs grades que les troupes d'ici; les bâtimens porteront le même pavillon que ceux d'ici.

Le Gouverneur d'Egypte nommera les officiers de terre et de marine jusqu'au grade *de Col-Agassi, grade immédiatement au-dessous de celui de Chef de Bataillon.* Quant aux nominations aux grades supérieurs à celui de *Col-Agassi,* il faudra absolument en demander la permission et prendre mes ordres là-dessus.

de Colonel.

Dorénavant les Pachas d'Egypte ne pourront pas faire construire des bâtimens de guerre sans en avoir demandé la permission de la Sublime Porte, et en avoir obtenu une autorisation claire et positive.

Colonel, c'est-à-dire de Pachas *Miri livi* (Généraux de Brigade) et de Pachas Férik (Généraux de division).

Attendu que chacune des conditions arrêtées comme ci-dessus est adhérente au privilège de l'hérédité, si une seule d'elles n'est pas exécutée, ce privilège d'hérédité sera aussitôt aboli et annulé.

Telle étant ma volonté suprême sur tous les points ci-dessus énoncés, toi, tes enfans et tes descendans, reconnaissans de cette haute faveur souveraine, vous vous empresserez toujours à exécuter scrupuleusement les conditions établies, vous vous garderez bien d'y contrevenir, vous

aurez soin d'assurer le repos et la tranquillité des Egyptiens en les mettant à l'abri de toutes injures et de toutes vexations, vous ferez des rapports ici et demanderez des ordres sur les affaires importantes qui concernent ces pays là, étant à ces fins que le présent firman Impérial qui est orné de mon rescrit Souverain a été écrit et vous est envoyé.

(Translation.)

Firman of February 13, 1841 *.

New Firman.

THE act of submission which thou hast just made, the assurances of fidelity and devotion which thou hast given, and the upright and sincere intentions which thou hast manifested, as well with regard to myself as in the interests of the Sublime Porte, have come to my sovereign knowledge, and have been very agreeable to me.

In consequence, and as the zeal and sagacity by which thou art characterized, as likewise the experience and knowledge which thou hast acquired in the affairs of Egypt during the long space of time that thou hast held the post of Governor of Egypt, give reason to believe that thou hast acquired a title to the favour and to the confidence which I may grant to thee, that is to say, that thou wilt be sensible of their full extent, and all the gratitude which thou shouldst have for them, that thou wilt apply thyself to cause these feelings to descend to thy sons and thy posterity, I grant unto thee the Government of Egypt within its ancient boundaries, such as they are to be found in the map which is sent unto thee by my Grand Vizier now in office, with a seal affixed to it, together with the additional privilege of hereditary succession, and with the following conditions:

Henceforth, when the post shall be vacant, *the Government of Egypt shall be conferred upon that one of thy male children in being whom I may have preferred and selected, and this system shall be equally observed with regard to his male children.*

If it shall please Providence at any time that the male line should become extinct, as in that case it will devolve upon my Sublime Porte the Government of Egypt shall descend in a direct line, from the elder to the elder, in the male race among the sons and grandsons. As regards their nomination, that shall be made by my Sublime Porte.

* All that is not underlined in this firman is in the new firman, and all that is underlined is changed, suppressed or modified in the new firman.

to confer the Government of Egypt on another person, the male children, issue of the daughters of the Governors of Egypt, shall possess no right to, no legal capacity for, the succession to the Government.

Henceforth that person from among thy children who shall be elected to the Government of Egypt, will have to proceed in person to Constantinople, there to receive investiture of his office.

Although the Pashas of Egypt have obtained the privilege of hereditary succession, they still must be considered, as far as precedency is concerned, to be on a footing of equality with the other Viziers, they shall be treated like the other Viziers of my Sublime Porte, and they shall receive the same titles as are given to the other Viziers when they are written to.

The salutary ordinances proclaimed, by my Imperial Hatti Sheriff of Gulhané, all the regulations made, and to be made, by my Sublime Porte, all the treaties concluded and to be concluded between my Sublime Porte and the friendly Powers, shall be completely executed in the province of Egypt likewise;

In Egypt, all the taxes, all the revenues, shall be levied and collected in my sovereign name; nevertheless as the Egyptians are likewise the subjects of my Sublime Porte, and in order that they may not one day be oppressed, the tenths, the duties, and the other taxes which are levied there, shall be so *according to the same rules as shall be in force in the other countries of my Sublime Porte.*

From the annual amount of the customs-duties, the tenths, the taxes, and every other species of revenues, there shall be set apart in the first instance, that is to say, without deducting any expense, the fourth part for the account of my Sublime Porte. The other three-fourths are left in order that they may serve to meet the expenses of collection, those of the internal administration, of the military establishments, and for the private treasury of the Pashas of Egypt, and for the payment of the provisions which it is customary to send every year in kind from Egypt to the two Holy Cities.

The amount of tribute which accrues to my Sublime Porte, and the mode of collection, are to be in force for five years, commencing from the year 1257 (*February,* 1841); *after that, it shall be lawful to make in that respect better arrangements according to the future condition*

The principles founded on the laws of security of life, of the security of property, and the preservation of honour, principles recorded in the salutary ordinances of my Hatti Sheriff of Gulhané;

and all the regulations made and to be made by my Sublime Porte shall also be put in practice in Egypt, reconciling them in the best way possible with the local circumstances and with the principles of justice and of equity.

in conformity with the equitable system adopted by my Sublime Porte; and care shall be taken to pay, when the period for payment shall arrive, out of the customs-duties the capitation tax, the tenths, the revenues, and other produce of the province of Egypt, the annual tribute of which the amount is inserted and defined in another Imperial firman.

It being customary to send every year from Egypt provisions in kind to the two Holy Cities, the provisions and other articles, whatever they may be, which have up to this time been sent to each place separately shall continue to be sent thither.

of Egypt, and the exigencies of the times; seeing that it is incumbent upon my Sublime Porte to know exactly the real amount of the annual revenues, and the mode of levying the tenths and other duties to be raised from the inhabitants, and considering that this knowledge can hardly be obtained except by the establishment of an office of control, measures shall be taken in conformity with the orders which I shall give in that respect.

As my Sublime Porte has taken the resolution of improving the coin, which is the soul of the operations of society, and of taking measures so that henceforth there can be no variation either in the alloy, or in the value, I grant permission for money to be coined in Egypt; but the gold and silver monies which I permit thee to coin, shall bear my name, and shall resemble in all respects, as regards their determination, value, and form, the monies which are coined here.

In time of peace, 18,000 men will suffice for the internal service of the province of Egypt; it shall not be allowed to increase their numbers. But as the land and sea forces of Egypt are raised for the service of my Sublime Porte, it shall be allowable, in time of war, to increase them to the number which shall be deemed suitable by my Sublime Porte.

The principle has been adopted that the soldiers employed in the other parts of my dominions shall serve for five years, at the end of which term they shall be exchanged for recruits. *That being the case, it is necessary that in this respect the same system should also be followed in Egypt. Consequently, it will be necessary to form out of the soldiers the most recently incorporated into the Egyptian troops,* 20,000 *men, to whom the principle of the period of service, reckoning from the day of their first entrance into it, shall hereafter be applied. Of this corps,* 18,000 *men shall be employed for the internal service of Egypt, and the* 2,000 *shall be employed here. And as the fifth part of these* 20,000 *men will have to be replaced every year, there shall be taken every year from the population of Egypt, by legal ballot, having regard to my humane feelings, and observing the most perfect impartiality,* 4,000 *men; 3,600 of whom shall be retained in Egypt, and the* 400 *sent to Constantinople. The soldiers who shall have been the first to*

That being the case, it would be requisite that the same system should also be observed in Egypt in that respect. But with regard to the duration of the service, the dispositions of the people shall be attended to, at the same time that what is required by equity is observed with regard to them.

Four hundred men shall be sent every year to Constantinople to replace others.

enter the service, either here or there, and who shall have completed their fifth year of service, shall be dismissed to their respective countries, and those who shall have once completed the term of service, shall not be again enlisted.

There may be a difference, on account of the climate, in the stuff of which the clothing of the troops of Egypt shall be made, but there must be none either in the uniform, or in the shape of the clothes, or in the distinguishing marks of rank, or in the flags, between the aforesaid troops and the troops of my Sublime Porte.

The troops to be employed on board the Egyptian vessels, officers and soldiers, shall have altogether the same clothing and the same distinguishing marks of their ranks as the troops of this place; the vessels shall carry the same flag as those of this place.

There shall be no difference between the distinguishing marks and the flags of the troops which shall be employed there, and the distinguishing marks and the flags of the other troops of my Sublime Porte. The officers of the Egyptian navy shall have the same distingishing marks of ranks, and the Egyptian vessels shall have the same flags, as the officers and vessels of this place.

The Governor of Egypt shall appoint the officers of the land and sea forces up to the rank of *Col-Agassi, the rank immediately below that of Chef de Bataillon.* With regard to the appointments to ranks higher than that of *Col-Agassi*, it will be absolutely necessary to apply for permission for them, and to take my orders thereupon.

Colonel.

Colonel, that is to say, of Pashas *Miri livi* (Brigadier-Generals), and of Pashas Ferik (Generals of Division).

Henceforth the Pashas of Egypt shall not be at liberty to build vessels of war without having first applied for the permission of my Sublime Porte, and having obtained from it a clear and positive authority.

As each of the conditions settled as above is annexed to the privilege of hereditary succession, if a single one of them is not executed, that privilege of hereditary succession shall forthwith be abolished and annulled.

Such being my supreme pleasure on all the points above specified, thou, thy children, and thy descendants, grateful for this exalted sovereign favour, ye shall be diligent in scrupulously executing the conditions laid down, ye shall take heed not to infringe them, ye shall be careful to ensure the repose and the tranquillity of the Egyptians by protecting them from all injury and from all oppressions, ye shall report to this place, and ye shall apply for orders on all matters of importance which concern those countries, it being for these purposes that the present Imperial Firman, which is decorated with my Imperial Order, has been written, and is sent to you.

No. 279.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received June* 12.)

My Lord, *Therapia, May* 23, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inclose translation I have just received of a firman specifying the amount and mode of payment of the tribute imposed upon the Pasha of Egypt by the Sublime Porte.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure in No. 279.

Firman addressed to Mehemet Ali.

(Traduction.)

Toi Vizir sus-mentionné!

COMME tu as été confirmé dans le gouvernement de l'Egypte avec hérédité, aux conditions résolutoires qui sont insérées dans un autre firman, ma Volonté Souveraine est, que tu ayes à payer annuellement pour ma Sublime Porte, sur les droits de douane, sur les dîmes et la capitation, et sur les autres revenus et produits de cette province, un tribut de 80,000 bourses*; qu'afin que le montant du tribut ne varie pas, puisque les prix des monnaies changent, on ait à calculer la somme de 80,000 bourses sur les prix des Colonnates d'Espagne qui sont en crédit en Egypte; et que le montant actuel des Colonnates soit payé chaque année en nature, ou bien que son équivalent soit payé en d'autres bonnes monnaies. Tels sont mes ordres, en conséquence desquels le présent firman Impérial a été écrit et envoyé.

Ainsi, lorsque tu auras appris de quoi il s'agit, tu agiras de la manière ci-dessus énoncée, et tu auras soin de payer au trésor Impérial, dès que le temps du payement sera arrivé, le tribut ci-dessus énoncé.

(Translation.)

Thou Vizir above-mentioned,

AS thou hast been confirmed in the government of Egypt with hereditary succession, on the absolute conditions inserted in another firman, my sovereign will is that thou shouldst pay annually to my Sublime Porte, out of the customs-duties, the tenths, and the capitation tax, and out of the other revenues and produce of that province, a tribute of 80,000 purses; that in order that the amount of tribute may not vary, since the value of money changes, the sum of 80,000 purses should be calculated according to the value of the Spanish pillared dollars which have currency in Egypt; and that the actual amount of pillared dollars should be paid every year in kind, or at all events its equivalent be paid in other good coins. Such are my orders, in consequence whereof the present Imperial firman has been written and sent.

Thus, when thou shalt have been apprized hereof, thou wilt act in the manner above-mentioned, and thou wilt be careful to pay to the Imperial treasury, when the time for payment shall arrive, the tribute above stated.

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* 80,000 purses, or 40,000,000 Turkish piastres, amounting at present to about 363,635*l.* sterling.

No. 280.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, June* 15, 1841.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 22nd of May inclosing a copy of the answer which you returned to Rifaat Pasha on the 18th of May, on the subject of the draft of an amended firman to be addressed to the Pasha of Egypt, which Rifaat Pasha communicated to yourself and to your Colleagues: and I have to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government approve that anwser.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 281.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Bulwer.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 11, 1841.

I HAVE been prevented by a variety of circumstances from sooner answering your despatch of the 28th ultimo, in which you give me an account of the substance of a despatch from the Baron de Bourqueney, which was read to you by M. Guizot, and of a conversation which you had with M. Guizot upon the subject of that despatch.

But as it appears by your despatch, that M. Guizot is under a mistaken impression as to what passed between me and the Baron de Bourqueney in the conversation of which the Baron de Bourqueney made a report in the despatch which M. Guizot read to you, it is necessary that I should send you a correct statement of what passed between me and the Baron de Bourqueney on that occasion.

The Baron de Bourqueney having called upon me in consequence of a note which I had written to him requesting him to do so, I stated that I had wished to see him in order to tell him that my Colleagues in the Conference began to be impatient for the signature of the Convention between the Five Powers about the Dardanelles and Bosphorus, the draft of which we had initialed on the 15th of March, and I had been requested by them to ask him whether he was then empowered and prepared to sign that Convention.

He said, that he was not yet authorized to sign that Convention, but would write immediately to Paris for an authority to do so, and had no doubt of obtaining that authority, if I would communicate to him, for the purpose of its being transmitted to his Government, a copy of the Memorandum from the Turkish Government which Chekib Effendi had then recently communicated to me, and in which the Porte announces its intention that the Hatti Sheriff which the Sultan sent on the 13th of February to Mehemet Ali, specifying the conditions attached to his appointment as hereditary Pasha of Egypt, should be modified, in regard to the mode of succession, with respect to the manner of fixing the amount of tribute, and as to the rule about military promotions.

I said, that I could not well send him a written copy of that Memorandum, or of the note by which Chekib Effendi had communicated it to me, because to do so, would look as if the Four Powers had been required by France to compel the Sultan to modify his Hatti Sheriff, and as if, having done so, they were rendering to France an account of the manner in which they had carried her desires into execution. This, I said, France herself had never asked, but, on the contrary, the French Government has declared that it would have nothing to do with the execution of the Treaty of July.

Baron de Bourqueney fully concurred in this statement, and said that it would be enough if I would declare to him that the Treaty of July has been fully executed and worked out, and that nothing can now happen that can lead the Four Powers to deliberate upon any matter arising out of, or directly connected with, the engagements of that Treaty. He said, that although France has certainly declared that she will have nothing to do with the execution of the Treaty of July, and is willing to sign the initialed Convention about the Straits, yet she cannot well sign that Convention until she shall know that the temporary engagements of the Treaty of July have been fully executed and worked out. Because it would place the French Government in an awkward and embarrassing position, if, after France, as one of Five, had signed a Treaty connected with the affairs of the Levant, the other Four should have occasion to deliberate without France, upon a matter connected with those affairs.

I said, that undoubtedly this was consistent with what he had said to me at the time when the Draft of Convention was agreed to and initialed, and that now as well as then, I must admit that there was reason in his statement; that, at all events, the French Government is the only judge of what suits it in this matter, and that I did not see that the Four Powers could justly object to the line which, according to M. de Bourqueney, it intended to pursue. But I said, that I regretted that it was not in my power to make to him the declaration which he required as a preliminary condition for the signature of the Convention by France.

I said, that by the Treaty of July, 1840, the Four Powers took towards the Sultan an engagement "to determine Mehemet Ali to conform to the arrangement specified in the Separate Act annexed to that Treaty." That this arrangement consisted of two parts, one regarding territory, the other regarding the relations of Mehemet Ali, as a subject, towards the Sultan, as his Sovereign.

The first part, I said, has been fully executed by the expulsion of Mehemet Ali's troops and authorities from Syria; the second has been in some degree executed by the restitution of the Turkish fleet; but other portions of this second part have not yet been conformed to by Mehemet Ali; and those portions relate to matters which are of fundamental importance, and which the Four Powers have, in the Collective Notes addressed by their Representatives in London to Chekib Effendi, declared to be absolutely indispensable conditions. The points which I particularly alluded to were, I said, the stipulations of the Separate Act which declare, that all the Laws and all the Treaties of the Ottoman Empire shall apply to Egypt as much as to every other province of that empire; and that Mehemet Ali should levy only the taxes and imposts established by law.

I said, that I had indeed received a letter from Commodore Napier, which was written from Alexandria on the 22nd of February, two days after the arrival of the Turkish Commissioner with the Hatti Sheriffs, and which letter Commodore Napier had shown to Mehemet Ali, or Boghos Bey, before he sent it off, in order to be sure that he rightly stated Mehemet Ali's intentions; and in that letter Sir Charles Napier said, that Mehemet Ali had unconditionally accepted those Articles of the Hatti Sheriff which stated that the Laws and Treaties of the empire should be fully applicable to Egypt as well as to all the other provinces, and that none but the legal taxes should be levied by Mehemet Ali; but I said, that, nevertheless, Mehemet Ali at the same time that he was giving these assurances to Sir Charles Napier was writing very differently to the Grand Vizier; and in his letter to the Vizier, which is the only communication which he has hitherto made to the Porte on these matters, he very civilly indeed, but very plainly and positively, declines to apply and execute in Egypt the Laws and Treaties of the empire, or to restrict himself to levying none but the taxes which are or may be established by law.

I said, that as this refusal of his had been mixed up with his remonstrance against those other parts of the Hatti Sheriff which the Sultan had since agreed to modify, it is very probable, that when the modifications which have been made by the Sultan shall become known to Mehemet Ali, Mehemet Ali will withdraw his objections to those conditions which the Four Powers have, upon full consideration, declared to be

indispensable; and it is to be hoped that Mehemet Ali will send in his complete, unreserved and unconditional acquiescence in the terms of the Hatti Sheriff, as definitively settled by the Porte.

But if, contrary to all just and reasonable expectation, this should not happen, and if Mehemet Ali should still be contumacious, the Sultan would probably address himself thereupon to his Four Allies; and it is impossible that the Four Powers should not have to deliberate together as to what, in such a state of things, the engagements of the Treaty of July, 1840, would require them to do.

I said, that of course I could not know beforehand what the result of such a deliberation might be; and it was obvious that such result would depend upon the circumstances of the case; but to tell him frankly my own opinion, I thought it fair to say, that it seemed to me, that in such a case, if the Sultan were to apply to the Four Powers, in virtue of the Treaty of July, to assist him in compelling Mehemet Ali to submit to the arrangement specified in the Separate Act annexed to that Treaty, the Four Powers would be bound in honour to comply with that demand, and there could be no doubt of their being able to carry their engagement into effect.

I said, that thus he would see, that although it is extremely improbable that the Four Powers can have occasion again to deliberate with a view to any measures in pursuance of the engagements they have contracted by the Treaty of July, because it is highly unlikely that Mehemet Ali can continue contumacious upon the points which I had mentioned, yet such a case is not impossible; and therefore I could not make to Baron de Bourqueney the declaration which he required.

He said, that this being so, he did not see how he could write to M. Guizot for an authority to sign the initialed Convention, because in applying for such authority, he would be obliged to report the explanation which I had just given him, and that explanation would render it impossible for M. Guizot, with reference to parliamentary and other domestic considerations, to send him an authority to sign; what then could be done? there seemed to him no choice but to wait some time longer, and still to postpone the signature of the Convention.

I said that, according to the view which the French Government took of the matter, and which I could not say was an unreasonable one, there seemed to be no alternative but to wait; and it appeared to me that we must soon hear from Alexandria that everything was satisfactorily adjusted. I observed, that the advice which the French Government has been lately giving to Mehemet Ali, and its declaration that it would not support him in pretensions which it pronounced to be unreasonable, must have a great effect upon his determination, and would probably lead him to give way.

I said, however, that I was ready to sign the proposed Convention at once and immediately; that day, the next day, any day. That it would be convenient to Her Majesty's Government, with reference to domestic considerations, that the Convention should be signed; and that its being signed would be useful for European purposes, because it would render Mehemet Ali more disposed to give way upon the points on which he still holds out; for if France had signed the new Convention, he would give up all hope of support from her; whereas, while she holds off from the other Powers, he will always speculate upon receiving assistance from her, whatever her Government and its Agents may tell him to the contrary.

The Baron de Bourqueney assured me that M. de Chabot had been instructed to state to Mehemet Ali in the plainest manner, that his pretensions upon all points, except the three with regard to which the Sultan has agreed to modify his Hatti Sheriff, are untenable and groundless; and to declare to him, that the French Government will give him no countenance whatever in maintaining those unreasonable pretensions.

The Baron de Bourqueney concluded by saying that, under all circumstances, he saw nothing that the French Government could do but to wait; but he said he trusted confidently that this further delay would not be charged against France as an indication of any wish on her part

to recede from the initialed Convention; and he hoped that it would not be put forward by any of the Four Powers as a ground for a change of purpose on their part, and for a refusal on their side to sign when France may think herself at liberty to do so.

I said, that I would undertake to justify to my Colleagues in the Conference the further delay asked for by France, and that I was quite prepared to say that the grounds alleged by Baron de Bourqueney for that delay, appeared to me to be reasonable, although at the same time, I thought that the French Government might with perfect consistency wave those grounds, if it thought proper to do so. And I also said, that I was quite sure that none of the Four Powers would ever think of making the present delay of France, a ground for a refusal on their part to sign by and by the initialed Convention.

From this statement I think it will be seen that it cannot justly be alleged, as you report M. Guizot to have stated to you, that "the objection and the delay to sign the initialed Convention proceed from the Government of Great Britain." On the contrary, the Government of Great Britain is ready to sign that Convention immediately, and the objection and the delay proceed from the Government of France; which Government refuses to sign, unless the British Government makes a previous declaration, which cannot be made in the present state of things. Her Majesty's Government, however, do not throw any blame upon that of France for this delay. The French Government has a full right to judge for itself on this matter; and it is due to Baron de Bourqueney that I should repeat, that the objection on which he has founded this delay, is not a new one put forward for the occasion, but is entirely in accordance with the language which he held when the Convention was originally discussed.

You will give a copy of this despatch to M. Guizot.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 282.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Bulwer.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 11, 1841.

WITH reference to my preceding despatch, of this day, I have to observe, that although the reason alleged by the French Government for delaying to sign the initialed Convention is perfectly reasonable in itself, and cannot be gainsaid; yet there is no difficulty in seeing what the effect is, of the course which that Government follows in this matter. The French Government has said that it does make its signature of the proposed Convention depend upon the decision of the Sultan, but that it does not make its signature depend on the decision of Mehemet Ali; that it will sign the Convention the moment that it shall learn officially from the Four Powers, that the Sultan has modified the conditions of his first Hatti Sheriff, about the mode in which Mehemet Ali's family shall succeed to the Pashalic of Egypt, about the manner in which the amount of the tribute is to be fixed, and about the degree of military rank up to which the Pasha of Egypt is to be allowed to select officers for promotion; and that it will not postpone signing the Convention in order to learn what answer Mehemet Ali may give to the Sultan's Hatti Sheriff so modified.

This proceeding of the French Government, at first sight, seems to be very fair, and has the appearance of an intention to withdraw all support from Mehemet Ali, and to leave him to his fate as soon as the Sultan has complied with the recommendation of the Four Powers.

But upon a closer examination, it will be seen that the course thus pursued by the French Government tends to give support to Mehemet Ali. Because the French Government, though it says it is ready to sign the Convention, now that the Sultan has modified his

Hatti Sheriff, nevertheless requires the Four Powers to make a preliminary declaration, that the Treaty of July has been fully executed and worked out; and that nothing can happen which can lead the Four Powers again to deliberate with a view to take measures in execution of the engagements of that Treaty. But if, in the present state of things, the Four Powers were to make such a declaration, what would be the consequence thereof? Why, that Mehemet Ali would have the benefit of the Sultan's modification of those Articles which the Four Powers advised him to modify; and that Mehemet Ali would also have the benefit of his own refusal to accede to those other conditions of the Hatti Sheriff, which the Four Powers have declared to be indispensable. For, on the one hand, the Sultan could not retract the concessions which he has made; and, on the other hand, the Four Powers would have declared that they considered the Treaty of July fully accomplished and executed, although they knew at the time when they made that declaration, that Mehemet Ali was refusing compliance with some of the conditions of the Separate Act; and therefore both Mehemet Ali and the French Government would assert, with some show of reason, that the Four Powers intended by their declaration to give up the unexecuted conditions of the Separate Act, and no longer to insist upon the acceptance of those conditions by Mehemet Ali.

Mehemet Ali would, consequently, persist in his refusal to admit that the Laws and Treaties of the Ottoman Empire should be carried into execution in Egypt; and he would continue to maintain that he must be at liberty to levy what taxes and imposts he pleases in Egypt, without confining himself to the taxes established by law.

Mehemet Ali would thus have carried all his points; and if at some future time the Sultan were to prepare to employ force, in order to compel him to conform to the Laws and Treaties of the Ottoman Empire, France would step in, and remonstrate in behalf of Mehemet Ali, saying to the Sultan, that the Four Powers had, in 1841, deliberately and purposely absolved Mehemet Ali from those conditions of the Treaty of July, 1840, because they had declared that Treaty to be fulfilled and worked out, although at the time when they made that declaration, they knew that Mehemet Ali was still refusing to comply with those conditions; and France would say, moreover, that the declaration so made by the Four Powers had been exacted from them by her, as the price of her signature to the Convention about the Straits; and that, consequently, she was fully entitled, and even in honour bound, to prevent the Sultan from depriving Mehemet Ali of privileges and immunities which had been granted to him in 1841, at her especial intercession.

It is obvious that, by such a course of things, France would be able to assert that, at her bidding, the Four Powers had released Mehemet Ali from conditions distinctly specified in the Treaty of July, and subsequently declared by the Four Powers in the Collective Notes of their Representives at London, to be indispensably necessary.

This would be an humiliation for the Four Powers; and ought to be resisted.

As France wishes to sign the Convention, and as she cannot sign as one of Five, till she is sure that the other Four will not have to deliberate without her, she has only to exert that influence at Alexandria, which, notwithstanding all that is said to the contrary, is well-known to be still paramount, and thus to compel Mehemet Ali to signify to the Sultan his full and formal acquiescence in all the provisions of the modified Hatti Sheriff.

I have stated all this more than once to Prince Esterhazy, to Baron Neumann, and to Baron Bülow.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 283.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Bulwer.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 12, 1841.

I HAVE this morning received a despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, reporting that Mehemet Ali has given orders for building two new ships of the line.

You will communicate this fact to the French Government; and you will observe to them that one of the few conditions of the Hatti Sheriff of the 13th of February last, which Mehemet Ali accepted without reserve, was, that he should build no more ships of the line, without the previous sanction of the Sultan.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON

No. 284.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 18.)

My Lord, *Therapia, May* 26, 1841.

I HAVE again urged Rifaat Pasha to expedite the despatch of the firman to Alexandria. I hope it will be done directly.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 285.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 18.)

My Lord, *Therapia, May* 26, 1841.

I have received an answer from his Excellency Rifaat Pasha to my letter urging the Porte to send the firman to Alexandria. His Excellency says, that he concurs with me in all I said on the subject, and will urge the council to complete the vizirial letter, and that I may be certain the firman will be sent from hence in three or four days. It appears that the vizirial letter has been found difficult to draw up; and it also appears that the ministers had no steamer to carry the firman, and have been obliged to wait for the return of one sent to Candia, and which is expected to arrive here to-morrow or the next day at the latest.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 286.

Mr. Bulwer to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 21.)

My Lord, *Paris, June* 18, 1841.

YOUR Lordship's messenger arrived at Paris on Monday, and having had your Lordship's despatch of June 11 copied, I called on M. Guizot with it on the following morning.

I thought it best, however, in the first instance, to read to M. Guizot that portion of my own despatch of the 28th of May, to which your Lordship replied, in order that I might be sure that I had faithfully given to your Lordship, the spirit and the substance of the conversation which I had had the honour of reporting.

On M. Guizot observing that the report in question had accurately given the sense (I could not pretend in every instance to give the precise terms) of his observations, and of that despatch of M. de Bourqueney which he had read to me, I read to his Excellency the account which your Lordship gives me of the interview between your Lordship and the French Chargé d'Affaires.

To this M. Guizot listened with silent attention until he came to the phrase "the further delay asked for by France," when he declared that he had never asked, nor had M. de Bourqueney asked in his name for any delay; that he had always held the same language, namely, that he would sign the Convention of March when the Treaty of July was declared to be at an end, and not before; that he had never yet asked for any delay, and did not now do so.

I begged him to allow me to proceed with the despatch since I had begun to read it, and that he would then better see and seize its whole meaning, and that, moreover, it was my intention and in conformity with my instructions, to leave the copy I had in my hand with him. Subsequently, when I had concluded the despatch, M. Guizot again recurred to the above-mentioned passage; I observed that I thought, considering the structure of the phrase in question, and of the despatch in general, that he attached too much importance to the word "asked," and that the whole pith of the matter lay in this simple exposition of facts, viz., That the Government of Her Majesty were willing now, and had always been willing to sign the initialed Convention, and that the Government of France was now willing to sign it, after a certain declaration on the part of Her Majesty's Government, which your Lordship did not think it consistent with the circumstances of the moment to make; that such being the case, the British Government could not be accused of delaying an affair it was willing to conclude, and that your Lordship on the other hand did not blame the French Government, (though you might differ from it in opinion,) for thinking that the declaration which at the moment could not be given, should be a preliminary to the signature desired.

M. Guizot then said, that neither did he for his part blame the British Government for the line it adopted, but that he could not but observe that the language held to M. de Bourqueney on the 10th of March, (I think that was the date,) was different from that since employed; and he turned to a despatch of M. de Bourqueney, of, I believe, March the 11th, and read me a passage of which I can only give the meaning, which was, that he (M. de Bourqueney) had asked on that occasion the different members of the Conference whether they considered that there was any chance of either a moral or material force (such I think were the words) being used to compel Mehemet Ali to subscribe to the conditions which the Sultan imposed; that the Representatives of Prussia and Austria answered, "non, mille fois non," and that your Lordship taking more time to consider, answered in effect (I cannot recollect the exact passage, which is long, in M. de Bourqueney's despatch), though less warmly, in the same manner.

"Thus," said M. Guizot, "I was assured on the 10th of March that no force of any kind could be employed against Mehemet Ali, and now I am told that it may; I do'nt find fault with this difference, but I point it out."

I said, that I was not in possession from my Government of what passed on the occasion he alluded to, and therefore I could not speak of it; but that if a different language was held now, as to the chances of having to compel Mehemet Ali to assume his situation as a vassal of the Porte, the conduct of Mehemet Ali himself on whom those chances depended might be different; and I then informed M. Guizot of the intelligence your Lordship had just received from Constantinople as to the two new vessels which he (the Pasha) was now building. Finally, our conversation concluded by my leaving the despatch of June 11, with M. Guizot, and agreeing to call again on Thursday morning, when he would speak to me further on the subject, and when I also expected that

he would have received some intelligence from Alexandria which might bring the whole of this question to a termination.

I have &c.,
(Signed) HENRY LYTTON BULWER.

No. 287.

Mr. Bulwer to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received June* 21.)

My Lord, *Paris, June* 18, 1841.

I RECEIVED a note from M. Guizot yesterday, begging me to defer my visit to him till to-day. I consequently called upon his Excellency this morning, and then asked him whether he had again read through the despatch of June 11, which I had the honour to communicate to him on Tuesday. M. Guizot said that he was going to a council at eleven, that he could not speak on that matter till after the council, and again alluded to the expression, "the further delay asked for by France," which he said he must reply to.

I then begged to know what intelligence had arrived from Constantinople and Alexandria?

From Constantinople the French Government has received the information, that the firman was sent off on the 31st of May, and that it specifies the tribute at 80,000 purses. (I may as well mention, since I have seen various values given to this Turkish mode of estimation, that a purse is about 125 francs; and that consequently 80,000 purses is 10,000,000 francs, or about 400,000*l*.)

The news from Alexandria is not yet arrived, but we calculated that it might be received to-morrow or next day, and contain the definitive answer of the Pasha.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) HENRY LYTTON BULWER.

No. 288.

Mr. Bulwer to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received June* 23.)

My Lord, *Paris, June* 20, 1841.

THE despatches arrived this morning from Alexandria are not of a later date than the 26th, consequently they contain no intelligence of importance.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) HENRY LYTTON BULWER.

No. 289.

Mr. Bulwer to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received June* 23.)

My Lord, *Paris, June* 21, 1841.

ALTHOUGH you have probably received the same information from other quarters, I take the liberty of observing, since the amount of tribute demanded from Mehemet Ali may be a subject of controversy, that 12,000 purses formed, as I understand, the original tribute which the Pasha paid when the piastre was worth four times its present amount, and when, consequently, 12,000 purses might be considered as 48,000 purses at this time.

The difference, therefore, between the sum now demanded and that formerly paid is not as may be contended 68,000, but 32,000 purses.

All persons conversant with the changes which Turkish coin has undergone of late years, will admit this explanation.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) HENRY LYTTON BULWER.

No. 290.

M. Guizot to the Baron de Bourqueney.—(Communicated to Lord Palmerston by the Baron de Bourqueney, June 24, 1841.)

Monsieur le Baron, *Paris, le* 18 *Juin*, 1841.

JE vous envoie ci-joint, copie d'une dépêche, en date du 11 de ce mois, que Lord Palmerston a écrite à M. Bulwer, en le chargeant de m'en donner communication. Comme vous le verrez, elle a pour objet de rectifier les impressions inexactes que le Gouvernement du Roi aurait reçues sur le sens des explications qui ont eu lieu, le 24 Mai dernier, entre Lord Palmerston et vous, lorsqu'il vous a exprimé, au nom de la Conférence, le vœu que le paraphe apposé à la Convention du 15 Mars fut transformé en signature définitive. Je ne m'attacherai pas à relever les différences que je remarque entre le récit que fait Lord Palmerston, de ces explications, et celui que vous m'en avez adressé vous-même le 25 Mai dernier. La dépêche que vient de me communiquer M. Bulwer, a été rédigée près de trois semaines après l'entretien auquel elle se rapporte, et lorsque cet entretien était déjà devenu l'objet de discussions qui ont pu, même à l'insçu de Lord Palmerston, influer sur ses souvenirs. Mon intention est d'éviter toute controverse qui ne serait pas absolument indispensable, et n'aurait d'autre effet que d'introduire dans la grande question qui nous occupe, de nouvelles et inutiles difficultés. Mais j'ai besoin, et c'est mon devoir, de bien établir, en rappelant simplement les faits, la scrupuleuse conséquence de notre conduite depuis l'ouverture de cette négociation, et notre loyale disposition à transformer maintenant notre paraphe en signature définitive, sans rien changer aux termes auxquels nous avons, dès le premier jour, attaché cette transformation.

Quand la Conférence de Londres nous a invités, le 5 Mars dernier, à consacrer, en commun avec les Puissances signataires du Traité du 15 Juillet, le principe de la clôture des détroits, elle nous a adressé cette invitation parcequ'elle considérait la Question Turco-Egyptienne comme terminée, et en nous déclarant que telle était sa ferme conviction.

Les Actes mêmes qu'on avait préparés, et qui nous ont été communiqués à cette époque, ne laissaient à cet égard aucun doute. Le Protocole signé le 5 Mars entre les Plénipotentiaires des Quatre Puissances, affirme que *les circonstances qui ont motivé le départ de leurs Consuls d'Alexandrie, ont cessé d'exister.* Le projet de Protocole qui invite la France à consacrer le principe de la clôture des détroits, déclare que *les difficultés qui ont déterminé le Sultan à réclamer l'appui des Cours d'Autriche, de la Grande Bretagne, de Prusse, et de Russie, viennent d'être applanies.* Tous ces documens ont précisément pour objet d'établir que la Question Turco-Egyptienne est close en principe, que l'invitation adressée à la France est la conséquence de cette clôture, et que notre signature de la Convention projetée aura pour effet de la constater définitivement.

En même tems qu'elles exprimaient à la France cette conviction, les Puissances tenaient, à la Porte elle-même, un langage encore plus positif, s'il est possible. Dans la note adressée le 13 Mars à Chékib Effendi, elles prennent acte de la communication par laquelle la Porte *leur annonce que la question d'Egypte se trouve terminée;* elles expriment leur vive satisfaction de voir ainsi *pleinement réalisées les intentions bienveillantes de la Convention du* 15 *Juillet;* et en parlant des discussions auxquelles pourrait donner lieu, entre le Sultan et le Pacha, le Hatti Shériff du 13 Février, elles déclarent formellement que *c'est à l'autorité seule du Sultan qu'il appartient aujourd'hui de résoudre les questions d'administration intérieure qui restent encore à régler,* et qu'elles n'entreront point, à cet égard, *dans un examen qui ne serait point de leur ressort.*

Enfin je lis dans votre dépêche du 11 Mars, comme je vous l'ai déjà rappelé le 31 Mai dernier, ce résumé de vos conversations, à cette époque, avec les Plénipotentiaires d'Angleterre, d'Autriche et de Prusse:

"Ya-t-il possibilité d'appui prêté par les Puissances au Sultan, en

vertu du Traité du 15 Juillet, pour forcer Méhémet Ali à accepter les conditions du Hatti Shériff?"

"A l'unanimité.—'Non.'"

"Ya-t-il possibilité d'intervention diplomatique, sous forme d'Acte émané du centre de Londres, pour le règlement de cette question intérieure?"

"La Prusse et l'Autriche: 'Non, décidément.' Lord Palmerston, après avoir cherché dans son imagination comme pour ne pas encourir la responsabilité d'une assertion légèrement avancée:—'Il serait possible, quoique invraisemblable, que la Porte nous demandât des explications sur quelques parties de la Note responsive du 30 Janvier, auquel cas, chacun de nous lui répondrait pour les confirmer dans le sens que nous avons compris nous-mêmes et que vous avez approuvé.'"

En présence de faits si positifs, de déclarations si claires et si unanimes, le Gouvernement du Roi ne pouvait conserver, quant à la clôture en principe de la Question Turco-Egyptienne, aucune incertitude, aucun doute. Ce fut dans cette confiance que, d'après les ordres du Roi, je vous autorisai, le 13 Mars, à parapher le projet de Convention relatif aux détroits, lorsque le Projet de Protocole éventuel qui nous invitait à signer cette Convention, aurait été également paraphé par les Plénipotentiaires des Quatre Cours; et la signature définitive fut ajournée, d'un commun accord, au moment où la Porte, en modifiant, d'après les conseils de ses Alliés, quelques dispositions du Hatti Shériff du 13 Février contre lesquelles Méhémet Ali avait élevé des réclamations que les Puissances elles-mêmes jugeaient fondées, aurait donné à l'Europe la certitude que la Question Turco-Egyptienne, déjà close en principe, était également terminée en fait, et n'offrait plus aucun intérêt Européen.

Ce qu'on attendait est maintenant accompli. La Porte a suivi les sages conseils qui lui ont été donnés; le Hatti Shériff du 13 Février a été modifié dans celles de ses dispositions qui pouvaient amener des complications nouvelles et graves. Le Gouvernement du Roi n'a rien à ajouter, rien à changer aux intentions qu'il a manifestées, aux engagemens qu'il a contractés le 15 Mars dernier, en paraphant le Projet de Convention relatif aux détroits. Il n'a demandé et ne demande aucune déclaration nouvelle, aucun délai nouveau. Il lui suffit de rappeler et de maintenir ce qu'il a dit, et ce qu'on lui a dit, au début de cette négociation. Il reconnait que la circonstance à laquelle il avait attaché le transformation du paraphe en signature définitive se trouve réalisée, et il est prêt à donner cette signature, pourvu que les Puissances, qui au mois de Mars dernier regardaient déjà la Question Turco-Egyptienne comme close, et ont paraphé alors le Protocole éventuel qui le déclare, persistent aujourd'hui dans leur conviction, transforment, selon leur promesse, le paraphe de ce Protocole en signature définitive, et témoignent ainsi d'un commun accord que le terme de cette affaire est enfin arrivé, et qu'il ne saurait plus y avoir lieu de leur part, en vertu du Traité du 15 Juillet, à aucune intervention prolongée ou renouvelée.

Vous voudrez bien, Monsieur, donner à Lord Palmerston communication de cette dépêche, et lui en laisser copie.

Recevez, &c.,
(Signé) GUIZOT.

(Translation.)

M. le Baron, *Paris, June* 18, 1841.

I SEND you herewith a copy of a despatch dated the 11th instant, which Lord Palmerston has written to Mr. Bulwer, directing him to communicate it to me. Its object, as you will see, is to rectify the erroneous impressions which the Government of the King may have received with regard to the meaning of the explanations which took place on the 24th of May last, between Lord Palmerston and yourself, when he expressed to you, in the name of the Conference, the wish that the initial affixed to the Convention of the 15th of March, should be converted into a definitive signature. I will not occupy myself in pointing out the differences which

I observe between the account given by Lord Palmerston of those explanations, and that which you yourself sent to me of them on the 25th of May last. The despatch which Mr. Bulwer has just communicated to me, was written nearly three weeks after the conversation to which it relates; and when that conversation had already been the subject of discussions which have, possibly, even without Lord Palmerston's knowledge, had an influence on his recollections. It is my intention to avoid all controversy which should not be absolutely indispensable, and which would have no other effect than that of introducing into the great question which occupies us fresh and useless difficulties. But it is necessary for me, and it is my duty clearly to make out, by a simple recapitulation of facts, the scrupulous consistency of our conduct since the commencement of this negotiation, and our sincere disposition to convert at the present time our initial into a definitive signature, without making any change in the terms to which we have, from the very first day, subjected that conversion.

When the Conference of London invited us on the 5th of March last, to record, in common with the Powers, Parties to the Treaty of the 15th of July, the principle of the closing of the Straits, it addressed that invitation to us, because it considered the Turco-Egyptian Question as concluded, and declaring to us that such was its firm conviction.

The very Acts which had been prepared, and which were communicated to us at that time left no doubt in that respect. The Protocol signed on the 5th of March by the Plenipotentiaries of the Four Powers asserts, that *the circumstances which occasioned the departure of their Consuls from Alexandria have ceased to exist.* The draft of Protocol which invites France to record the principle of the closing of the Straits, declares, that *the difficulties which determined the Sultan to apply for the support of the Courts of Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia, are now removed.* The precise object of all these documents is to establish that the Turco-Egyptian Question is in principle closed; that the invitation addressed to France is the consequence of its being so closed; and that our signature of the contemplated Convention will have the effect of definitively recording that fact.

At the same time that they expressed this conviction to France, the Powers held to the Porte itself a language, if possible, still more positive. In the Note addressed to Chekib Effendi on the 13th of March, they record the communication by which the Porte *announces to them that the Question of Egypt is at an end;* they express their lively satisfaction at thus seeing *the benevolent intentions of the Convention of the 15th of July fully realized;* and in speaking of the discussions which the Hatti Sheriff of the 13th of February might give rise to between the Sultan and the Pasha, they formally declare, that *it is the authority of the Sultan alone to which it appertains, at the present time, to solve the questions of internal administration which still remain to be settled;* and that they will not enter, in this respect, *into an examination which would not be within their province.*

Lastly, I read in your despatch of the 11th of March, as I have already reminded you on the 31st of May last, this summary of your conversations at that time with the Plenipotentiaries of England, Austria, and Prussia.

"Is there any possibility of support being afforded by the Powers to the Sultan, in virtue of the Treaty of the 15th of July, in order to compel Mehemet Ali to accept the conditions of the Hatti Sheriff?"

"Unanimously; 'No.'"

"Is there any possibility of diplomatic intervention under the form of an Act issued from the centre of London, for the settlement of this internal question?"

"Prussia and Austria; 'No, decidedly,' Lord Palmerston, after having considered, as if to avoid incurring the responsibility of an assertion lightly advanced: 'It might be possible, although improbable, that the Porte should demand explanations on some parts of the answer of the 30th of January, in which case each of us would reply, in order to confirm them in the sense which we have ourselves understood, and which you have approved.'"

In the face of such positive facts, of declarations so clear and so unanimous, the Government of the King could not entertain, as regards the closing in principle of the Turco-Egyptian Question, any uncertainty, any doubt. It was under this persuasion that, by order of the King, I authorized you, on the 13th of March, to initial the Draft of Convention relative to the Straits, when the Draft of eventual Protocol, which invited us to sign that Convention, should in like manner have been initialed by the Plenipotentiaries of the Four Courts; and the definitive signature was adjourned, by common consent, to the moment at which the Porte, by modifying, according to the advice of its Allies, some provisions of the Hatti Sheriff of February 13, against which Mehemet Ali had raised objections which the Powers themselves considered reasonable, should have afforded to Europe the certainty that the Turco-Egyptian Question, already closed in principle, was equally concluded in fact, and no longer afforded any European interest.

What was looked for is now accomplished. The Porte has followed the prudent advice which was given to it; the Hatti Sheriff of the 13th of February has been modified in those of its provisions which might occasion new and serious inconvenience. The Government of the King has nothing to add, nothing to alter in the intentions which it manifested in the engagements which it contracted on the 15th of March last, on initialing the Draft of Convention relative to the Straits. It has not demanded, and it does not demand, any new declaration, any fresh delay. It is sufficient for it to recall and to abide by what it said, and what was said to it, at the commencement of this negotiation. It admits that the circumstance to which it had attached the conversion of the initial into a definitive signature is realized, and it is ready to give that signature, provided that the Powers who in the month of March last already looked upon the Turco-Egyptian Question as closed, and initialed at that time the eventual Protocol which declares it to be so, persist at the present time in their conviction, convert, according to their promise, the initial of that Protocol into a definitive signature, and manifest thus, by common consent, that the conclusion of this affair is at length arrived, and that there can no longer be occasion on their part, in virtue of the Treaty of July 15, for any prolonged or renewed intervention.

You will have the goodness, Sir, to communicate this despatch to Lord Palmerston, and to leave a copy of it with him.

Receive, &c.,
(Signed) GUIZOT.

No. 291.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received June* 24.)

My Lord, *Therapia, June* 2, 1841.

HIS Excellency the Internuncio had the goodness to communicate to me the inclosed papers from Alexandria.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure in No. 291.

Extract of a Letter from Alexandria, dated May 16, 1841.

LA popolazione Franca di Alessandria, la quale teneva per definiti gli affari concernenti la vertenza Turco-Egiziana, rimase per così dire stordita sentendo che i Signori Consoli Generali avevano ricevuto l'ordine di ritardare la loro partenza per quì.

Tutti i timori già da qualche tempo assopiti, si risvegliarono. Ognuno teme nuove complicazioni, e già pare a molti di rivedere sull'orizonte i vascelli Inglesi che minacciano di bombardare Alessandria. Quelli stessi che poc 'anzi baldanzosi tenevano le cose per definitivamente conchiuse, e speravano in un felice avvenire, sono ora perplessi e prevedono male, se una pronta soluzione delle complicazioni sopragiunte non viene a porre un termine a questo stato d'incertezza.

I partigiani poi del Governo Egiziano cantano vittoria. Assicurano che il Pascià ha ottenuto tutte le modificazioni che avea chieste, e vanno perfino a ridersi delle Quattro Potenze Alleate, che dopo d'avere come essi dicono, fatto tanti sforzi per annichilire Mehemet Ali, sono ora costrette a consigliare il Sultano di accordare al suo potente vassallo tutte quelle condizioni che piacquegli di imporre a se stesso, e da mezzo delle quali arriverà egli tosto o tardi alla tanto bramata independenza. Difatti, aggiungono essi, ha egli 80,000 uomini scelti a sua disposizione, dei buoni generali, ne gli viene rotta l'influenza morale che esercita sulla massa, perchè gli si accorda la facoltà di creare gli offiziali. Con ciò e questi, ed i soldati ed il popolo restano nella persuasione che il suo potere non è minimamente scemato, e quindi dominando egli sul loro spirito li saprà esaltare a suo piacere, e qualora si presenterà un occasione favorevole, che non può tardare, invaderà nuovamente il vacillante Impero Ottomano, ed il Sultano impotente sarà costretto di accordargli la bramata independenza, o verrà precipitato del mal fermo suo trono.

Eccole in complesso le dicerie di molti e molti partigiani, che però non riescono a tranquillizare colle loro ciarle la maggiorità del pubblico, la quale, come già ebbi l'onore di dirli, teme di una non lontana nuova collisione.

Frattanto i lavori alle fortificazioni vengono continuati senza interruzione, e la guardia nazionale esercitata frequentamente nelle manovre.

L'armata dicesi essere stata portata al suo completo, per le assidue cure di Ibrahim Pascià.

Gli equipaggi della flotta saranno soldati frà pochi giorni di tutti i loro avvanzi, ed è stato deciso che d'ora in poi saranno pagati puntualmente ogni mese. Chi conosce quanto si possa contare sulle belle promesse di Boghos Bey, mette in dubbio l'esecuzione di tale decisione.

E stato pure decisa nel Divano la costruzione d'un vascello a tre ponti, due a due ponti, e cinque fregati da 64. Prima però che ciò sia eseguito, bisognerà che il Governo si procuri i legnami da costruzione, poichè per ora non ne ha tanti da costruire otto barche canonière.

Un bastimento Maltese, giunto recentemente dall'Inghilterra, portò al governo oltre a molti oggetti di guerra, dei mortai e delle bombe, ciocchè, unitamente alle circostanze precedentemente descritte, non è certamente una pruova di obbedienza e di sommissione di Mehemet Ali verso il suo Sovrano.

(Translation.)

THE Frank population of Alexandria, who looked upon the affairs relating to the Turco-Egyptian Question as definitively settled, became, as it were, astounded upon hearing that the Consuls-General had been ordered to retard their departure for this place.

The apprehensions which had been already allayed for some time, were again awakened. Every one fears new complications, and many

fancy that they already behold the British ships on the horizon threatening to bombard Alexandria. Those who a short time before were exulting in the thoughts of a definitive settlement of affairs, and who looked forward to a happy state of things, are now perplexed, and apprehend evil, unless a prompt solution of these new complications should terminate the actual state of uncertainty.

On the other hand, the partizans of the Egyptian Government shout victory. They assert that the Pasha has obtained all the modifications which he demanded, and they even go so far as to laugh at the Four Allied Powers, who, they say, after making so many exertions to annihilate Mehemet Ali, are now obliged to advise the Sultan to grant to his powerful vassal all the conditions which he pleased to make for himself, and by means of which he will, sooner or later, attain the independence he so much covets. They add, in fact, that he has at his disposal 80,000 chosen men, and good generals, and that he still maintains his moral influence over the mass of the people, inasmuch as he has been granted the power to appoint his own officers. Thus both they, the soldiers and the people, continue in the belief that his power is by no means weakened, and with this hold over their minds he will be enabled to inflame them as he pleases; and whenever a favorable opportunity arrives, which cannot be long, he will again invade the tottering Ottoman Empire, and the feeble Sultan will be obliged to grant him the independence he desires, or he will be hurled from his weak throne. I give you here the substance of the reports of many of these partizans, who, however, do not succeed by their idle talk in tranquillizing the majority of the people, who, as I before stated, apprehend a not distant collision.

The works at the fortifications are in the mean time carried on without interruption, and the National Guard is frequently exercised in manœuvring.

The army is said to be now complete, owing to the unceasing exer tions of Ibrahim Pasha.

The crews of the fleet will be paid all their arrears in a few days, and it has been decided that they shall be henceforward regularly paid every month. The performance of this is, however, doubted by those who know the degree of reliance which can be put in the fine promises of Boghos Bey.

It has been also decided by the Council to construct a three decker, two two deckers, and five 64-gun frigates. The Government, however, will be obliged first to provide timber for this purpose, for it has not sufficient, at this time, to build eight gun-boats.

A Maltese ship, lately arrived from England, brought some mortars and shells for the Government, besides a quantity of other warlike stores. This, combined with the before related facts, affords anything but a proof of Mehemet Ali's obedience and submission to his Sovereign.

No. 292.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received June* 24.)

My Lord, *Therapia, June* 2, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that the firman and vizirial letter, and instructions to Muhib Effendi, were sent off yesterday in a steamer to Alexandria.

I inclose copies of the letter and of the instructions.

I have received your Lordship's instructions to the 11th of May, by the messenger Townley, whom I propose to despatch on the 5th or 6th instant.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY

Inclosure 1 in No. 292.

Letter from the Grand Vizier to Mehemet Ali; communicated by the Porte to the Representatives of the Allied Courts, May 28, 1841.

(Traduction.)

J'AI pris connaissance de la lettre responsive que votre Altesse m'a envoyée en date du 6 Muharem, 1257 (28 Février, 1841), renfermant quelques représentations et quelques demandes, et je l'ai mise sous les yeux de Sa Majesté Impériale.

Sa Hautesse agissant d'après les impulsions de son naturel magnanime et les besoins de son cœur plein de bonté pour ses serviteurs, étant animée de nouveaux sentimens favorables pour votre Altesse, et ayant eu égard aux représentations bienveillantes et aux demandes loyales des Hautes Cours amies et alliées, a gracieusement daigné accorder, parmi les demandes qui vous avez faites, ce qui suit:

Pour ce qui regarde la succession, on renonce à l'élection, et la succession sera dévolue, dans la ligne masculine, à l'aîné de vos fils et de vos petits-fils.

Il n'est plus question du quart des revenus, et le tribut à payer annuellement pour la province d'Egypte est fixé à un tant.

Par rapport aux grades militaires, on aura à demander ici l'autorisation de nommer des Généraux de Division et des Généraux de Brigade; mais votre Altesse pourra conférer jusqu'au grade de Colonel.

Quant aux lois de l'Empire, les principes fondamentaux de ces lois consistent dans la sûreté de la propriété et de la vie, et dans la conservation de l'honneur: principes légitimes et naturels qui sont posés dans le Hatti Shériff de Gulhané, qui, comme votre Altesse sait, sont des lois générales, c'est-à-dire les élémens constitutifs de tout gouvernement, de tout pouvoir, dont ils sont, pour ainsi dire, l'âme; et qui ne sont susceptibles dans aucun pays, ni de distinction dans leur application, ni de la moindre modification. Enfin ces principes ne sauraient varier ni à cause de la différence du climat, ni à cause de la diversité des caractères des hommes; et l'on ne peut pas dire, par exemple, qu'ils sont nécessaires dans un pays, et qu'il ne semble pas qu'ils le soient dans un autre. Mais l'esprit de la législation et la raison veulent que ces principes soient appliqués dans tous les pays en général et sans distinction, à tous les rangs de la société, à toutes les classes des sujets, et à toutes les nations. Aussi un firman Impérial a-t-il été formellement lu et publié à ce sujet, il y a quelque temps, en Egypte. La volonté divine et les ordres souverains s'opposent à ce que l'on agisse d'une manière qui soit en la moindre chose en contravention aux principes fondamentaux dont il s'agit, et à ce qu'on les change.

Il y a seulement des lois particulières qui doivent en effet, et la simple raison nous le fait voir journellement, être adaptées aux exigences locales de chaque pays, et même au caractère de ses habitans. C'est pourquoi Sa Hautesse a bien voulu faire des concessions à leur égard, et a ordonné ce qui suit:

A condition que dans aucun temps il ne soit apporté la moindre atteinte aux bases du Hatti Shériff de Gulhané, que tous les traités conclus et à conclure avec les Puissances amies soient mis entièrement à exécution, et que conformément aux traités de commerce, l'ancien système des monopoles soit tout-à-fait aboli, les autres réglemens seront mis à exécution en Egypte, en les conciliant le mieux que l'on pourra avec les exigences locales.

Bien que la perception des taxes se fasse dans ces pays-ci par l'entremise de Defterdars et de Muhassils, pourtant si ce mode de perception semblait difficile à appliquer à la perception des taxes à prendre en Egypte au nom du Sultan, dans ce cas, et attendu que le principal but de Sa Hautesse est de mettre partout, et à tout égard, tous les sujets de l'Empire à l'abri des injustices et des vexations, on adoptera dans la perception des taxes une bonne méthode qui ne doit pas passer les bornes de la justice et de la discrétion.

Comme on ne peut pas dire convenablement, par rapport aux autres lois et au temps du service militaire, que les règles établies dans un pays ne sauraient convenir en tous points à un autre, et que pour cela un autre code est suivi en Egypte, province faisant partie des états de l'Empire Ottoman, on se conformera aux réglemens de la Sublime Porte; mais, pourtant, on agira d'après les exigences locales et les dispositions des habitans, et suivant les règles de l'équité.

Chaque fois que le poste sera devenu vacant, le Sultan accordera à celui qui sera nommé par la Sublime Porte Gouverneur d'Egypte, la faveur de venir à Constantinople pour faire ses remercimens, et pour offrir les hommages légitimes de ses respects.

Un firman Impérial conçu dans le sens de la décision prise de concert avec MM. les Représentans des Hautes Cours Alliées, et orné en haut d'un Hatti Shériff, et un autre firman Impérial concernant le quantum du tribut, ont été envoyés avec Kiémal Effendi, Khodjoghian du Divan Impérial, à Son Excellence Hadji Said Muhib Effendi, un des principaux fonctionnaires de la Sublime Porte et Ministre actuel de la Justice, qui se trouve à Alexandrie, afin qu'ils vous soient présentés par son intermédiaire.

Les concessions et les faveurs insignes et sans pareilles accordées à Votre Altesse à présent, en sus de celles dont elle a déjà été l'objet, étant de la plus haute portée, et les Ministres de la Sublime Porte étant intimément persuadés que Votre Altesse saura, d'après la sagacité qui la caractérise, apprécier à leur juste valeur les bienfaits signalés qu'elle vient de recevoir de la part de Sa Majesté Impériale, il y a lieu d'espérer et de s'attendre que, remplissant désormais le devoir de la reconnaissance pour ces insignes faveurs souveraines, Votre Altesse fera tout son possible de prouver dans chaque occasion la fidélité et le dévouement dont elle fait profession; et qu'étant un des principaux Ministres de la Sublime Porte, Votre Altesse mettra tout en œuvre pour rendre de concert avec nous de bons services à notre Padichah légitime et notre bienfaiteur.

A la réception donc des firmans, Votre Altesse les fera lire en public; elle exécutera à la lettre les ordres et les conditions réglementaires qu'ils renferment; elle payera dès que le temps en sera venu, le tribut annuel qui a été fixé, d'après les produits et les revenus de l'Egypte, à 80,000 bourses, et elle consignera en entier au trésor Impérial les arrérages accumulés, ainsi que cela est dit dans le firman qui vous a été envoyé il y a quelque temps. Tels étant aussi les ordres de Sa Hautesse, il faudra vous y conformer.

Il n'y a rien à dire quant aux concessions et aux conditions de la Sublime Porte, et il est, par conséquent, hors de doute que, conseillée par ses propres lumières, Votre Altesse s'empressera de faire tout ce qui est nécessaire, et d'en témoigner toute votre reconnaissance. Cependant si, contre toute attente, Votre Altesse montrait quelque hésitation relativement au montant du tribut, nous sommes convaincus que comme vous conformerez désormais chacun de vos actes à l'obéissance respectueuse que vous professez, et aux lois de l'équité, Votre Altesse avouera et conviendra que la quantité du tribut payé autrefois n'était en rapport ni avec le ressources de l'Egypte, ni avec les devoirs de la fidélité et du dévouement

Enfin, si Votre Altesse fait des observations sur le tribut et sur les autres conditions, ce sera là une chose inconvenante, et par ce qu'elle n'est pas digne d'elle, et par ce qu'elle est contraire à la décision des Cours Alliées.

Ma franchise m'a imposé le devoir, et c'est ce qu'exige le parfait accord qui va, s'il plait à Dieu, et sous les auspices de Sa Hautesse, être établi entre nous, de vous faire les observations ci-dessus, auxquelles il faut faire attention; et j'ai jugé à propos de vous les faire par suite de l'amitié sincère et de la bienveillance que j'ai pour vous.

J'espère que, d'après les assurances que vous avez données de vos bonnes intentions, de votre zèle et de votre sollicitude pour la prospérité de la Sublime Porte, et particulièrement pour la conservation de la dignité et du bonheur de Sa Majesté Impériale, Votre Altesse écoutera favorable-

ment les conseils que je lui donne et les observations que je lui fais à cœur ouvert; et qu'elle s'empressera de mettre les firmans à exécution.

Le retour des Consuls des Quatre Cours à Alexandrie a été différé par leurs Gouvernemens jusqu'à ce que votre soumission soit complète, mais aussitôt qu'à la réception du firman vous vous serez empressé de le mettre à exécution, on prendra des mesures pour le retour des Consuls à leur poste.

(Translation.)

I HAVE taken cognizance of the answer which your Highness has sent to me, dated 6 Muharem, 1257, (28 February, 1841,) containing some representations and demands, and I have laid it before His Imperial Majesty.

His Highness, acting according to the impulse of his magnanimous disposition, and the desires of his heart full of kindness to his servants, being animated by fresh sentiments of favour for your Highness, and having had regard to the kind representations and sincere demands of the friendly and allied High Courts, has graciously deigned to grant, among the demands which you have made to him, what follows:

With regard to the succession, the choice is given up, and the succession shall devolve, in the male line, upon the eldest of your sons and of your grandsons.

There is no longer a question of the fourth part of the revenues; and the tribute to be paid annually, for the province of Egypt, is fixed at a certain amount.

With respect to the military rank, application must be made here for authority to appoint Generals of Division and Generals of Brigade; but your Highness will be at liberty to appoint up to the rank of Colonel.

As to the laws of the Empire, the fundamental principles of those laws consist in the security of property and life, and in the maintenance of honour: legitimate and natural principles which are laid down in the Hatti Sheriff of Gulhané, which are, as your Highness knows, general laws, that is to say, the constituent elements of every Government, of all power, of which they are, so to say, the soul; and which are not susceptible, in any country, either of distinction in their application, or of the least modification. In short, those principles cannot change, either on account of the difference of the climate, or on account of the difference in the character of men; and it cannot, for instance, be said that they are necessary in one country, and that it does not appear that they are so in another. But the spirit of legislation and reason require that those principles should be applied in all countries in general and without distinction, to all ranks of society, to all classes of subjects, and to all nations. Therefore an Imperial firman upon this subject was formally read and published, some time since, in Egypt. The divine will and the sovereign commands are opposed to any conduct which would be in the least in contravention of the fundamental principles in question, and to any change in them.

There are only particular laws which ought in fact, and simple reason daily makes this evident to us, to be adapted to the local wants of every country, and even to the character of its inhabitants. For this reason, His Highness has deigned to make concessions with regard to tnem, and has commanded what follows:

On condition that the bases of the Hatti Sheriff of Gulhané shall not at any time be at all infringed, that all the treaties concluded and to be concluded with the friendly Powers shall be carried fully into execution, and that in conformity with the treaties of commerce, the old system of monopolies shall be entirely abolished, the other laws shall be carried into execution in Egypt, with reference as far as possible to local exigencies.

Although the collection of the taxes is effected in these countries by means of Defterdars and of Muhassils, nevertheless if this mode of collection appears difficult to be applied to the collection of the taxes to be levied in Egypt in the name of the Sultan, in that case, and seeing that

the principal object of His Highness is to protect all the subjects of the Empire, everywhere and in every respect, from injustice and oppression, a good method, which shall not exceed the limits of justice and discretion, shall be adopted in the collection of the taxes.

As it cannot be properly said, with respect to the other laws and to the term of military service, that the regulations established in one country would not be fitting in all points for another, and that on that account another code is followed in Egypt, a province forming part of the dominions of the Ottoman Empire, the laws of the Sublime Porte must be observed; however, they shall be acted upon according to the local exigencies and the dispositions of the inhabitants, and according to the rules of justice.

Every time that the post shall become vacant, the Sultan shall grant to him who shall be appointed by the Sublime Porte Governor of Egypt, the favour of coming to Constantinople to make his acknowledgments, and to pay the just homage of his respect.

An Imperial firman drawn up in the sense of the decision taken in concert with the Representatives of the High Allied Courts, and embellished above with a Hatti Sheriff, and another Imperial firman concerning the amount of the tribute, have been sent by Kiemal Effendi, Khodjogian of the Imperial Divan, to his Excellency Hadji Said Muhib Effendi, one of the principal functionaries of the Sublime Porte and the present Minister of Justice, who is at Alexandria, in order that they may be presented to you by him.

The concessions and the signal and unparalleled favours now granted to your Highness, besides those of which you have already been the object, being of the highest importance, and the Ministers of the Sublime Porte being firmly persuaded that your Excellency will, with the wisdom which characterizes you, know how to appreciate at their just value the signal benefits which you have just received at the hands of His Imperial Majesty, there is reason to hope and to expect that, henceforth fulfilling the duty of gratitude for those signal sovereign favours, your Highness will do all in your power to prove on every occasion the fidelity and devotion which you profess; and that, being one of the principal Ministers of the Sublime Porte, your Highness will use all your endeavours to render in concert with us good services to our legitimate Padishah and our benefactor.

On the receipt, then, of the firmans, your Highness will cause them to be read in public; you will execute to the letter the orders and conditions of regulation which they contain; you will pay, when the proper time shall arrive, the annual tribute which has been fixed, according to the produce and revenues of Egypt, at 80,000 purses, and you will deposit in full in the Imperial treasury the accumulated arrears, as it is stated in the firman which was sent to you some time since. Such being, then, the orders of His Highness, you must act in conformity with them.

There is nothing to be said as to the concessions and the conditions of the Sublime Porte, and it is, consequently, beyond a doubt that, guided by your own experience, your Highness will hasten to do all that is necessary, and to testify all your gratitude for them. However, if, contrary to all expectation, your Highness shows any hesitation with respect to the amount of the tribute, we are convinced that, as you will henceforth adapt all your actions to the respectful obedience which you profess, and to the laws of equity, your Highness will admit and agree that the amount of tribute formerly paid was not in proportion either to the resources of Egypt, or to the duties of fidelity and devotion.

In short, if your Highness makes observations upon the tribute and upon the other conditions, it will be an unsuitable thing, both because it is not worthy of you, and because it is contrary to the decision of the Allied Courts.

My sincerity has imposed upon me the duty, which is also required by the perfect harmony which will, please God, and under the auspices of His Highness, be established between us, of making to you the above observations, to which you must pay attention; and I have thought proper to make them to you in consequence of the sincere friendship and goodwill which I entertain for you.

I hope, from the assurances which you have given of your good intentions, of your zeal and of your anxiety for the prosperity of the Sublime Porte, and particularly for the maintenance of the dignity and happiness of His Imperial Majesty, that your Highness will listen favourably to the advice which I give you, and to the observations which I make to you in all sincerity; and that you will hasten to carry the firmans into execution.

The return of the Consuls of the Four Courts to Alexandria has been postponed by their Governments until your submission shall be complete, but as soon as upon the receipt of the firman, you shall have hastened to carry it into execution, measures will be taken for the return of the Consuls to their posts.

Inclosure 2 in No. 292.

Vizirial letter to Said Muhib Effendi; communicated by the Porte to the Representatives of the Allied Courts, May 28, 1841.

(Traduction.)

LA lettre détaillée que votre Excellence a écrite en date du 5 Muharem, 1257 (27 Février, 1841), et celle de Son Altesse Méhémet Ali Pacha, ont été prises en considération par les Ministres, qui ont conféré entre eux là-dessus, ainsi qu'avec les Quatre Représentans.

En conséquence de la décision prise, un firman Impérial contenant les conditions réglementaires vous est envoyé avec Kiémal Effendi, un des Khodjoghian du Divan Impérial. Vous verrez par ce firman que Sa Hautesse qui est douée d'un caractère magnanime, voulant faire éclater la bonté de son cœur envers ses serviteurs, et par égard pour des conseils dictés par l'amitié, a fait les concessions suivantes: elle renonce au principe de l'élection, et la succession sera dévolue, dans la ligne masculine, de l'aîné à l'aîné parmi les fils et les petits-fils; le Tribut est fixé à un tant; et l'on pourra aller jusqu'à conférer le grade de Colonel.

Quant aux lois de l'empire, comme les principes fondamentaux de ces lois, savoir, la sûreté de la propriété et de la vie, et la conservation de l'honneur, sont insérés dans le Hatti Shériff de Gulhané, et qu'il n'est pas permis de les changer, ni d'établir des distinctions quant à leur application, il est du devoir de la législation et d'une bonne administration de voir que ces principes soient appliqués partout, complètement, et envers tous les sujets. A condition donc que ces principes fondamentaux soient mis en pratique scrupuleusement en Egypte, aussi les autres lois y seront exécutées après les avoir conciliées, autant que possible, avec les circonstances locales.

S'il est difficile que la perception des dîmes et des taxes qui doivent être prises au nom du Sultan se fasse en Egypte comme elle se fait dans les autres parties de l'empire, au moyen de Muhassils, comme l'objet que l'on a en vue est de préserver les sujets de Sa Hautesse des injustices et des vexations, on adoptera pour la perception des dîmes et des taxes un bon systême, un systême basé sur la modération et l'équité.

Le temps du service et les lois militaires seront établis suivant les dispositions des habitans de ces pays là, et avec beaucoup de justice et d'humanité.

Tels sont les ordres de Sa Hautesse.

Ainsi que votre Excellence le sait, les revenus de l'Egypte montent à présent à 700,000 ou 800,000 bourses. Bien que par suite des principes d'équité qui vont être adoptés, et de l'abolition du systême nuisible des monopoles, cette somme puisse diminuer un peu, les revenus réels monteront annuellement à 400,000 ou 500,000 bourses. Supposons donc que sur cette somme ou dépense 100,000 bourses pour l'armée, et la flotte, 100,000 bourses pour l'administration intérieure, et 100,000 bourses pour les dépenses particulières, encore restera-t-il un excédant de 100,000 ou de 200,000 bourses.

Et considérons aussi que tandis que jusqu'à présent on entretenait

une armée de plus de 100,000 hommes, cette armée va être réduite, et portée seulement à 18,000 hommes, ce qui fait épargner les dépenses de l'entretien de 70 ou 80,000 hommes, dépenses qui montent pour le moins à 90,000 bourses.

La capitation et la dîme sur les produits n'appartiennent de droit à personne; c'est la propriété légitime du trésor public des Musulmans. Voilà donc trois sources d'où dérivent des sommes immenses. Ainsi il faudrait payer annuellement à la Sublime Porte, sur les revenus réels de l'Egypte, un tribut pour le moins de 100,000 bourses. Mais afin qu'il ne reste plus lieu à aucune dispute, et que les habitans de ces pays là ne soient pas molestés à cet égard lorsqu'ils sont sous les auspices de Sa Hautesse, qui est animée de sentimens pleins de modération et d'équité, Sa Hautesse a décidé que la province d'Egypte payera à la Sublime Porte un tribut annuel de 80,000 bourses, et elle a fait écrire un firman exprès pour cela.

Il y des Sandjaks, tels par exemple qu'Aidin et Saroukhan, qui n'ont pas la moitié de l'étendue de l'Egypte, et dont le tribut annuel, sans y comprendre les dîmes, la capitation, et la douane, monte à 30,000 ou 40,000 bourses.

Comme le tribut fixé pour une contrée aussi vaste que l'Egypte, à 80,000 bourses par an, est tout à fait dans les bornes de la modération, Méhémet Ali a trop de jugement et de sagacité pour faire des difficultés à cet égard. Cependant si, contre notre attente, il faisait des objections à ce sujet, vous lui ferez les raisonnemens ci-dessus, en ajoutant que ses excuses ne sont pas convenantes, et que ce n'est pas ainsi qu'il doit correspondre aux faveurs souveraines dont il a été l'objet. Vous tacherez de faire dresser et de prendre l'acte y relatif, et de faire prendre l'engagement formel de payer un moment plus tôt les arrérages qu'on sait.

Après avoir fait lire en public le Firman Impérial qui contient les conditions réglementaires, et après que le Pacha aura pris l'engagement de s'empresser d'exécuter soigneusement et mot à mot toutes les dispositions qu'il renferme, vous prendrez des dépêches analogues, et vous êtes autorisé à retourner ici, vû que votre séjour prolongé à Alexandrie n'aurait plus d'objet. Vous aurez soin de rapporter avec vous le Firman Impérial qui contenait les premières conditions et qui est orné d'un Hatti Shériff.

(Translation.)

THE detailed letter which your Excellency wrote on the 5th Muharem, 1257, (27th February, 1841,) and that of his Highness Mehemet Ali Pasha, have been taken into consideration by the Ministers, who have conferred with each other, as well as with the Four Representatives, thereupon.

In consequence of the decision taken, an Imperial firman containing the legislative stipulations is sent to you by Kiemal Effendi, one of the Khodjoghian of the Imperial Divan. You will see by this firman, that His Highness, who is endowed with a magnanimous disposition, desiring to make manifest the kindness of his heart towards his servants, and out of regard for advice dictated by friendship, has made the following concessions: He gives up the principle of election, and the succession will devolve, in the male line, from eldest to eldest, among the sons and grandsons; the tribute is fixed at a certain amount; and it will be permitted to appoint up to the rank of Colonel.

With respect to the laws of the Empire, as the fundamental principles of those laws, namely, the security of life and property, and the maintenance of honour, are inserted in the Hatti Sheriff of Gulhané, and as it is impossible to change them, or to establish distinctions with respect to their application, it is the duty of legislation and of a good administration to see that those principles are applied everywhere, thoroughly, and to all subjects. On condition, then, that those fundamental principles shall be scrupulously carried into execution in Egypt, the other laws also shall be executed there after they shall have been reconciled, as much as possible, with local circumstances.

If it is difficult to collect the tenths and taxes, which must be levied in the name of the Sultan in Egypt, as they are collected in the other parts of the Empire, by means of Muhassils, since the object in view is to protect the subjects of His Highness from injustice and oppression, a good system shall be adopted for the collection of the tenths and taxes; a system founded on moderation and justice.

The term of service and the military laws shall be established according to the dispositions of the inhabitants of those countries, and with much justice and humanity.

These are the orders of His Highness.

As your Excellency knows, the revenues of Egypt now amount to 700,000 or 800,000 purses. Although in consequence of the principles of equity which are about to be adopted, and of the abolition of the hurtful system of monopolies, that sum may be a little diminished, the real revenues will amount annually to from 400,000 to 500,000 purses. Let us suppose, then, that of this sum, 100,000 purses are spent for the army and the fleet, 100,000 purses for the internal administration, and 100,000 purses for the private expenses, there will still remain a surplus of 100,000 or 200,000 purses.

And let us also consider that, whilst hitherto an army of more than 100,000 men has been maintained, that army will be reduced, and will amount only to 18,000 men, which will save the expense of maintaining 70 or 80,000 men, an expense which amounts at the least to 90,000 purses.

The capitation tax and the tenth of the produce belong to nobody by right; it is the lawful property of the public treasury of the Mussulmans. Here then are four sources from which immense sums are derived. Therefore a tribute of at the least 100,000 purses, out of the real revenues of Egypt, should be annually paid to the Sublime Porte. But in order that there may no longer remain any cause of dispute, and that the inhabitants of those countries may not be molested in this respect when they are under the auspices of His Highness, who is animated by feelings full of moderation and equity, His Highness has decided that the province of Egypt shall pay to the Sublime Porte an annual tribute of 80,000 purses, and he has caused a firman to be written expressly to that effect.

There are Sandjaks, such for instance as Aidin and Saroukhan, which are not of half the extent of Egypt, and of which the annual tribute, not including the tenths, the capitation tax, and the custom-house duties, amounts to 30,000 or 40,000 purses.

As the tribute fixed for so vast a country as Egypt, at 80,000 purses a year, is entirely within the bounds of moderation, Mehemet Ali has too much judgment and wisdom to make difficulties in that respect. However, if, contrary to our expectation, he should make objections upon this matter, you will use the above arguments to him, adding that his excuses are not proper, and that it is not thus that he ought to reply to the sovereign favours of which he has been the object. You will endeavour to cause the deed relative thereto to be drawn up, and take charge of it, and to cause a formal engagement to be taken that the arrears which are known shall be paid at the earliest possible moment.

After having caused the Imperial firman, which contains the conditions of regulation, to be read in public, and after the Pasha shall have made an engagement to lose no time in executing carefully, word for word, all the stipulations which it contains, you will take despatches to that effect, and you are authorized to return here, as there would no longer be any object in your prolonged stay at Alexandria. You will take care to bring back with you the Imperial firman which contained the first conditions, and which is embellished with a Hatti Sheriff.

No. 293.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received June* 26.)

My Lord, *Therapia, June* 8, 1841.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of extracts of reports communicated by the Austrian Consul-General at Alexandria, on the number of troops returned from the Hedjaz and Syria, with remarks on the causes which have led to its being exaggerated.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure in No. 293.

Extract of Reports received from Egypt by the Austrian Embassy in Constantinople.

Constantinople, June 4, 1841.

THE War Office estimates the troops returned from the Hedjaz and from Syria together at 48,718 men, and those who were in Egypt in 1840 at 28,696.

These numbers are exaggerated at least by two-fifths; and from official reports it may be deduced that while the commanding officers had two reasons for overrating their troops, the real forces never were above 42,000 men, viz. 9,000 men returned from the Hedjaz, 18,000 men returned from Syria, and the rest, composed of sedentary troops (militia), invalids, and effective troops in Egypt, distributed between Cairo, the Delta, and Alexandria.

The two reasons for which the commanding officers are interested in making out returns above the real strength of their corps are as follows:—

1. The fear of being ill-used by the Pasha, for not having taken care of their men, and this would have sufficed to make them lose their commissions.

2. Pecuniary interests; because the commanding officers draw pay and allowances for rations according to the returns which they make.

As soon as the Syrian army had returned by the three roads of the Desert *viâ* El Arish and Damietta, it was found that matters stood not as they were represented, and it was given out that about 33,000 men had been disbanded, while only a great many were sent into hospital, where violent fevers, typhus, plague, and dysentery, are miserably destroying them.

It is supposed, and not without reason, that the return of the army, according to the organization of the 15th March ultimo, amounting to 87,440 combatants, is altogether imaginary; and that, in reality, Egypt possesses only the *cadres* of two regiments of Guards, twelve of Infantry, two of Veterans, nine of Cavalry, three of Artillery, besides some irregular Infantry and Artillery, in all 50,000 men, exclusively of the Marine forces, which may be estimated at the outside at 5,400 men.

No. 294.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(*Received June* 26.)

My Lord, *Therapia, June* 8, 1840.

I SEND you a return (which I have before submitted to your Lordship) in order to call your attention to the statement therein made of the number of troops actually in the service of Mehemet Ali, because although

the examination* of the facts made by M. Laurin may prove the exaggeration of that statement, it is nevertheless important that what Mehemet Ali intends and is aiming at effecting, and has thought proper to publish, should be made evident to you; and the statement is known to exhibit it.

I have &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

Inclosure in No. 294.

State of the Egyptian Army in 1840 *and* 1841.

Situation de l'Armée avant les Hostilités.

36	Régimens d'Infanterie complets	118,080
3	„ de Garde	9,840
15	„ de Cavalerie	11,880
5	„ Artillerie de 12 Bataillons	12,000
2	Bataillons de Génie	1,600
2	Régimens d'Invalides	6,560
	Troupes Turques Irrégulières, Cavalerie, Infanterie, Mogrebins	31,650
	Artillerie Turque	9,850
	Bédouins du Hedjaz et Syrie	8,000
	Marine	12,000
	Total	221,460

Division de l'Armée.

En Egypte.

2	Régimens d'Infanterie	6,560
1	„ Artillerie	2,400
3	„ Cavalerie	2,376
2	„ Invalides	6,560
	Artillerie Turque Irrégulière	1,600
	Cavalerie et Infanterie Irrégulière	8,400
1	Bataillon du Génie	800
	Total	28,696

Au Hedjaz

10	Régimens d'Infanterie	32,800
1	Compagnie Chasseurs	84
1	„ Vétérans	102
3	Batteries d'Artillerie	600
	Artillerie Turque Irrégulière	400
	Cavalerie et Infanterie Irrégulière	9,650
	Bédouins du Hedjaz	1,000
	Total	44,636

Au Sennar.

3	Régimens d'Infanterie	9,840
	Cavalerie Turque Irrégulière	800
	Total	10,640

* See inclosure in No. 293.

En Candie

1	Régiment d'Infanterie	3,280
	Artillerie Turque Irrégulière	400
	Cavalerie et Infanterie Irrégulière	350
	Total	4,030

En Syrie.

23	Régimens d'Infanterie	75,440
12	„ de Cavalerie	9,504
4	„ d'Artillerie	9,600
	Cavalerie et Infanterie Irrégulière	21,000
	Artillerie Irrégulière	4,800
	Bédouins de Syrie	7,000
	Total	127,344

Après l'évacuation de Syrie et du Hedjaz.

Rentres du Hedjaz.

10	Régimens d'Infanterie incomplets	15,000
1	Compagnie de Chasseurs	46
3	Batteries d'Artillerie	320
	Total	15,366

De la Syrie.

5	Régimens d'Infanterie	16,400
2	Bataillons d'Infanterie	1,600
6	Régimens de Cavalerie	4,752
2	„ d'Artillerie	4,800
	Cavalerie et Infanterie Irrégulière	5,200
	Artillerie Turque	600
	Total	33,352

Troupes qui existent en Egypte après la nouvelle réorganisation du 15 Mars, 1841.

12	Régimens d'Infanterie compris les 2 de Gardes	39,360
2	Bataillons de Garde	1,600
2	Régimens de Vétérans	6,560
	„ de Cavalerie	7,128
	„ d'Artillerie	7,200
	Troupes Irrégulières Turques, Cavalerie et Infanterie	12,600
	Artillerie Turque	2,200
	Marine	10,800
	Total	87,448

Le même nombre de Troupes qui étaient au Sennar et en Candie existent encore.

Caire, le 22 *Avril,* 1841.

(Translation.)

Situation of the Army before the Hostilities.

36	Regiments of Infantry complete	118,000
3	„ of the Guard	9,840
15	„ of Cavalry	11,880
5	„ of Artillery of 12 Battalions	12,000
2	Battalions of Engineers	1,600
2	Regiments of Invalids	6,560
	Irregular Turkish Troops, Cavalry, Infantry, Mogrebins	31,650
	Turkish Artillery	9,850
	Bedouins of the Hedjaz and Syria	8,000
	Navy	12,000
	Total	221,460

Division of the Army.

In Egypt.

2	Regiments of Infantry	6,560
1	„ of Artillery	2,400
1	„ of Cavalry	2,376
2	„ of Invalids	6,560
	Irregular Turkish Artillery	1,600
	„ Cavalry and Infantry	8,400
1	Battalion of Engineers	800
	Total	28,696

In the Hedjaz.

10	Regiments of Infantry	32,800
1	Company of Chasseurs	84
1	„ of Veterans	102
3	Batteries of Artillery	600
	Irregular Turkish Artillery	400
	„ Cavalry and Infantry	9,650
	Bedouins of the Hedjaz	1,000
	Total	44,636

In Sennaar.

3	Regiments of Infantry	9,840
	Irregular Turkish Cavalry	800
	Total	10,640

In Candia.

1	Regiment of Infantry	3,280
	Irregular Turkish Artillery	400
	„ Cavalry and Infantry	350
	Total	4,030

In Syria

23	Regiments of Infantry - - - -	75,440
12	„ of Cavalry - - -	9,504
4	„ of Artillery - - - -	9,600
	Irregular Cavalry and Infantry - - -	21,000
	„ Artillery - - - -	4,800
	Bedouins of Syria - - - -	7,000
	Total	127,344

After the Evacuation of Syria and the Hedjaz.

Returned from the Hedjaz.

10	Regiments of Infantry incomplete - - -	15,000
1	Company of Chasseurs - - - -	46
3	Battalions of Artillery - - - -	320
	Total	15,366

From Syria.

5	Regiments of Infantry - - - -	16,400
2	Battalions of Infantry - - - -	1,600
6	Regiments of Cavalry - - - -	4,752
2	„ of Artillery - - -	4,800
	Irregular Cavalry and Infantry - - -	5,200
	Turkish Artillery - - - -	600
	Total	33,352

Troops in Egypt after the new Reorganization of March 15, 1841.

12	Regiments of Infantry, including the 2 of Guards -	39,360
2	Battalions of Guard - - - -	1,600
2	Regiments of Veterans - - -	6,560
	„ of Cavalry - - - -	7,128
	„ of Artillery - - - -	7,200
	Irregular Turkish Troops, Cavalry and Infantry -	12,600
	Turkish Artillery - - - -	2,200
	Navy - - - - -	10,800
	Total	87,448

The same number of Troops which were in Sennaar and in Candia are still there.

Cairo, April 22, 1824.

No. 295.

Mr. Bulwer to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 27.)

My Lord, *Paris, June* 25, 1841.

M. GUIZOT has received despatches from Alexandria dated the 6th inst., at which period the firman was not arrived.

The Count Chabot had had an interview, however, (as M. Guizot

informed me) with the Viceroy, and informed him, that the French Government considered the conditions which the Sultan now offered reasonable, and that no aid or countenance was to be expected from France, should they be refused.

M. Guizot seemed to say that the only point on which resistance could be expected was the tribute, which the Pasha spoke of as excessive.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) HENRY L. BULWER.

No. 296.

Mr. Bloomfield to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received June 28.)

(Extract.) *St. Petersburgh, June 19, 1841.*

A COPY of the firman forwarded by the Porte to Alexandria has arrived here, and Count Nesselrode seems to think it may, perhaps, be accepted *in toto* by Mehemet Ali, or at all events with some unimportant modifications.

Count Nesselrode has received a report from Baron Brunnow of the condition which the French Government wished to impose on the Four Powers, of annulling the Treaty of July, before they would consent to sign the initialed Convention, and entirely approves of the view taken by Her Majesty's Government of this proposal, as detailed by your Lordship to the members of the Conference.

No. 297.

Mr. Vice-Consul Chasseaud to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 2.)

Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate,
My Lord, *Alexandria, June 16, 1841.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that on the 7th instant, late in the evening, a Russian steam-vessel, the "Sitasch," arrived here from Constantinople, bringing Kiamil Effendi, officer from the Porte, who was the bearer of the expected firman, which Mehemet Ali having accepted, the ceremony of its being read in public took place on the 10th instant in the forenoon, when a salute was fired from the forts and the Egyptian shipping in port on the occasion, announcing the event.

I took advantage of the return to Constantinople of the Russian steam-vessel, which left this on the 11th in the morning, and had the honour of addressing Viscount Ponsonby, acquainting his Excellency with the occurrence.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) G. CHASSEAUD,
Vice-Consul.

No. 298.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 9.)

My Lord, *Therapia, June 16, 1841.*

THE French steamer on the 14th brought letters here (one being from a person well known to possess the best information in Alexandria) stating the intention of Mehemet Ali to refuse the new firman. Mehemet Ali had not received the firman when the above letters were written, but had received accounts of its contents. Mehemet Ali may alter his

intentions before he sends back an answer to the firman. He may have had reasons for expressing an intention to refuse; it is probable that he will do something to gain time. I am of opinion now, as I have always been, that he never will carry into execution the measures ordered by the Sultan under the advice of the Great Powers.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY.

No. 299.

Viscount Ponsonby to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 8.)

My Lord, *Therapia, June 21, 1841.*

NO doubt but your Lordship will have heard from Alexandria long before this arrives in London, that Mehemet Ali has accepted the firman. I however think it right to inclose the despatch I received this day from Alexandria, reporting this satisfactory intelligence.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) PONSONBY

Inclosure in No. 299.

Mr. Vice-Consul Chasseaud to Viscount Ponsonby.

Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate,
My Lord, *Alexandria, June 10, 1841.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency, that on the 11th instant, late in the evening, the Russian steam-vessel, "Sitasch," arrived here bringing Kiamil Effendi, officer of the Porte, bearer of the firman to Mehemet Ali; and that next morning I was informed from good authority, that Mehemet Ali had declared that he accepted the new conditions therein contained. Accordingly, this forenoon the firman was read in public at the palace, and a salute was fired from the forts and the Egyptian shipping on the occasion, announcing the event.

On the 8th instant, Hadji Ali Pasha appointed for Jeddah arrived here in a sailing vessel.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) G. CHASSEAUD,
Vice-Consul.

No. 300.

PROTOCOLE d'une Conférence tenue au Foreign Office, 10 *Juillet,* 1841.

Présens:

Les Plénipotentiaires
d'Autriche;
de la Grande Bretagne;
de Prusse;
de Russie; et
de la Turquie.

LES difficultés dans lesquelles Sa Hautesse le Sultan s'est trouvé placé, et qui l'ont déterminé à réclamer l'appui et l'assistance des Cours d'Autriche, de la Grande Bretagne, de Prusse, et de Russie, venant d'être applanies, et Méhémet Ali ayant fait envers Sa Hautesse le Sultan l'acte de soumission que la Convention du 15 Juillet était destinée à amener, les Représentans des Cours signataires de la dite Convention ont reconnue, qu'indépendamment de l'exécution des mesures temporaires résultant de cette Convention, il importe essentiellement de consacrer, de la manière la plus formelle, le respect dû à l'ancienne règle de l'Empire Ottoman, en vertu de laquelle il a été de tout tems défendu aux bâtimens de guerre des Puissances étrangères d'entrer dans les détroits des Dardanelles et du Bosphore.

Ce principe étant par sa nature d'une application générale et permanente, les Plénipotentiaires respectifs, munis à cet effet des ordres de leurs Cours, ont été d'avis, que pour manifester l'accord et l'union qui président aux intentions de toutes les Cours dans l'intérêt de l'affermissement de la paix Européenne, il conviendrait de constater le respect dû au principe susmentionné, au moyen d'une transaction à laquelle la France serait appelée à concourir, à l'invitation et d'après le vœu de Sa Hautesse le Sultan.

Cette transaction étant de nature à offrir à l'Europe un gage de l'union des Cinq Puissances, le Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté Britannique ayant le Département des Affaires Etrangères, d'accord avec les Plénipotentiaires des Quatre autres Puissances, s'est chargée de porter cet objet à la connaissance du Gouvernement Français, en l'invitant à participer à la transaction par laquelle, d'une part, le Sultan déclarerait sa ferme résolution de maintenir à l'avenir le susdit principe; de l'autre, les Cinq Puissances annonceraient leur détermination unanime de respecter ce principe et de s'y conformer.

(Signé) ESTERHAZY. NEUMANN.
PALMERSTON.
BULOW.
BRUNNOW.
CHEKIB.

(Translation.)

PROTOCOL of a Conference held at the Foreign Office, July 10, 1841.

Present:

The Plenipotentiaries
of Austria;
of Great Britain;
of Prussia;
of Russia; and
of Turkey.

THE difficulties in which His Highness the Sultan was placed, and which decided him to apply for the support and the assistance of the Courts of Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia, being now removed, and Mehemet Ali having made towards His Highness the Sultan the act of submission which the Convention of the 15th of July was designed to bring about, the Representatives of the Courts parties to the said Convention have considered, that, independently of the execution of the temporary measures resulting from that Convention, it is of essential importance to record, in the most formal manner, the respect which is due to the ancient rule of the Ottoman Empire, in virtue of which it has at all times been prohibited for Ships of War of foreign Powers to enter into the Straits of the Dardanelles and of the Bosphorus.

This principle being from its nature one of general and permanent application, the respective Plenipotentiaries, provided with the orders of their Courts to this effect, have been of opinion that, in order to manifest the agreement and union which regulate the intentions of all the Courts in what concerns the maintenance of the peace of Europe, it would be proper to record, the respect which is due to the above-mentioned principle, by means of an arrangement in which France should be invited to concur, at the invitation, and agreeably to the wish, of the Sultan.

This arrangement being calculated to afford to Europe a pledge of the union of the Five Powers, Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, agreeably to an understanding with the Plenipotentiaries of the Four Powers, undertook to bring this matter to the knowledge of the French Government, requesting it to take part in an arrangement by which, on the one hand, the Sultan should declare his firm resolution to maintain for the future the above-mentioned principle; the Five Powers, on the other hand, should announce their unanimous determination to respect that principle and to conform themselves thereto.

(Signed) ESTERHAZY. NEUMANN.
PALMERSTON.
BULOW.
BRUNNOW.
CHEKIB.

No. 301.

Viscount Palmerston to Viscount Ponsonby.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, July* 13, 1841.

I HAVE to acquaint your Excellency that the Convention, of which a draft was transmitted to you in my despatch of the 16th of March, was signed this day by the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain, Austria, France, Prussia, Russia, and Turkey.